

Close shave
John Parker celebrates
the craft of the cricket
bat-maker

Page 11

Bubble, bubble
How to find your way
around the best of the
sparkling wines:

Page 14

Southward ho
Travel visits Tasmania,
the contrary Isle:

Page 12

Pilgrims' progress
Plymouth Argyle versus
Watford: Simon Barnes
on the Pilgrims' progress
to Wembley:

Page 33

Prices and jobs outlook improves

New figures from the Department of Employment indicate a brighter outlook for both jobs and prices. They reveal an inflation rate of 5.2 per cent for the year to the end of March and that employment rose at an increasing pace during the last months of 1983

Page 21

Strike threat to GCE pupils

Peace hopes in the teachers' pay dispute have faded increasing the risk of disruption to pupils' final preparations for GCE examinations next term.

After the employers' refused over arbitration, the unions concur at Easter are expected to call for extended strikes

Page 2

Gielgud is 80

Sir John Gielgud, who celebrates his eightieth birthday today, was given a party on the Old Vic stage where he made his acting debut 63 years ago

Page 3

Whitehouse win

The Independent Broadcasting Authority was criticized in the Court of Appeal for screening *Nation*, a film about life in a borstal, after a complaint by Mrs Mary Whitehouse

Page 4

Britain pitted

Commonwealth Caribbean countries have reacted more in sorrow than anger to British lethargy over the Grenada crisis. last October

Page 6

House boom

With mortgage funds freely available, building societies expect an Easter housebuying spree and are predicting price rises of 12 per cent this year

Family Money, page 25

Swapo offer

Swapo is ready to sign a ceasefire in Namibia with Pretoria provided this is the first step towards the territory's independence

Page 5

Easter recess

The Commons rose for their Easter recess yesterday and will return on Wednesday, April 25.

Rolls loss

Rolls-Royce, the aeroengine manufacturer, made a net loss of £118m last year and expects more redundancies among its 38,000 employees

Page 21

Classic trial

Mahogany, favourite for next month's 1000 Guineas at Newmarket, strengthened her Classic claims with an impressive trial win at Newbury

Page 32

Leader page 9
Letters: On ships at war, from Professor Sir R. Mason; exam levels, from Mr L. Norcross, and Mr B. Page; the Constitution, from Sir J. Colville. Leading articles: Iran, Criminal Law Committee, Zola Budd.

Features, page 8
Making a mountain out of a molehill, David Nicholson; Lord on green and pleasant Liverpool; Going . . . going . . . Geraldine Norman on the art treasure train; Anthony Parsons on the empire's minor gems

Obituary, page 10
Dr Ralph Lapwood, Miss Jon Gooden.

Home News 2-4 Law Report 30
Overseas 4-6 Parliament 2
Arts 6 Religion 11
Bridge 19 Sale Room 2
Business 21-24 Science 10
Cars 18 Services 10
Courts 10 Sport 31-34
Crossword 36 TV & Radio 35
Darts 8 Weather 36

Defy your union, MacGregor challenges miners

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

45,000 yesterday, indicated an increasing mood for a return to work.

Mr Ian MacGregor, the National Coal Board chairman, appealed to miners yesterday to defy their union and resume work on Monday while warning them that the board and the Government were prepared to sit out the pits strike until the autumn if necessary.

His challenge to the National Union of Mineworkers was linked with a claim that the union executive's decision against a national ballot had prevented its system of democracy from working.

He said the board would take no early initiatives and indicated that the industry's leaders are hoping for a steady drift back to work before next Thursday's union delegate conference, which will decide whether to reduce from 55 per cent to a simple overall majority the vote needed in a ballot to call a national strike.

Mr MacGregor described that as "indicating some kind of desperation that they have to move the goal posts to make it easier to score". Coal board executives have not abandoned hope that the rule change will be defeated by moderate areas although they accepted that the left had a strong grip on the conference.

Board officials said the increase in the number of miners reporting for work, up from 22,000 two weeks ago to

45,000 yesterday, indicated an increasing mood for a return to work.

Mr MacGregor said: "The electricity industry has other fuels available to it and at the present reduced rate of consumption has enough coal in stock to last well into the autumn. Our own stocks stand at well over 21 million tonnes."

Officials would not indicate how many pits might not reopen after a long closure and Mr MacGregor refused to reveal new figures on the five-week strike's financial impact on the industry although losses are now well over the £200m which the board estimated the action had cost up to the end of last month.

The board said miners' lost earnings through the strike and the overtime ban now amounted to £150m and would increase at the rate of £19m a week.

Mr David Owen, Chief Constable of North Wales, confirmed yesterday that he had authorized the use of plain clothes detectives on picket lines but denied they were being used as agents provocateurs.

He said: "If I get a brick thrown from the back of the crowd and one of my officers is injured, I must have at least a reasonable chance of finding out who threw it."

Kinnock campaign, page 21

"We want the maximum number of our employees to have the chance to earn money as the holiday season approaches."

Board officials said the increase in the number of miners reporting for work, up from 22,000 two weeks ago to

45,000 yesterday, indicated an increasing mood for a return to work.

Mr MacGregor said: "The electricity industry has other fuels available to it and at the present reduced rate of consumption has enough coal in stock to last well into the autumn. Our own stocks stand at well over 21 million tonnes."

Officials would not indicate how many pits might not reopen after a long closure and Mr MacGregor refused to reveal new figures on the five-week strike's financial impact on the industry although losses are now well over the £200m which the board estimated the action had cost up to the end of last month.

The board said miners' lost earnings through the strike and the overtime ban now amounted to £150m and would increase at the rate of £19m a week.

Mr David Owen, Chief Constable of North Wales, confirmed yesterday that he had authorized the use of plain clothes detectives on picket lines but denied they were being used as agents provocateurs.

He said: "If I get a brick thrown from the back of the crowd and one of my officers is injured, I must have at least a reasonable chance of finding out who threw it."

Kinnock campaign, page 21

"We want the maximum number of our employees to have the chance to earn money as the holiday season approaches."

Board officials said the increase in the number of miners reporting for work, up from 22,000 two weeks ago to

45,000 yesterday, indicated an increasing mood for a return to work.

Mr MacGregor said: "The electricity industry has other fuels available to it and at the present reduced rate of consumption has enough coal in stock to last well into the autumn. Our own stocks stand at well over 21 million tonnes."

Officials would not indicate how many pits might not reopen after a long closure and Mr MacGregor refused to reveal new figures on the five-week strike's financial impact on the industry although losses are now well over the £200m which the board estimated the action had cost up to the end of last month.

The board said miners' lost earnings through the strike and the overtime ban now amounted to £150m and would increase at the rate of £19m a week.

Mr David Owen, Chief Constable of North Wales, confirmed yesterday that he had authorized the use of plain clothes detectives on picket lines but denied they were being used as agents provocateurs.

He said: "If I get a brick thrown from the back of the crowd and one of my officers is injured, I must have at least a reasonable chance of finding out who threw it."

Kinnock campaign, page 21

"We want the maximum number of our employees to have the chance to earn money as the holiday season approaches."

Board officials said the increase in the number of miners reporting for work, up from 22,000 two weeks ago to

45,000 yesterday, indicated an increasing mood for a return to work.

Mr MacGregor said: "The electricity industry has other fuels available to it and at the present reduced rate of consumption has enough coal in stock to last well into the autumn. Our own stocks stand at well over 21 million tonnes."

Officials would not indicate how many pits might not reopen after a long closure and Mr MacGregor refused to reveal new figures on the five-week strike's financial impact on the industry although losses are now well over the £200m which the board estimated the action had cost up to the end of last month.

The board said miners' lost earnings through the strike and the overtime ban now amounted to £150m and would increase at the rate of £19m a week.

Mr David Owen, Chief Constable of North Wales, confirmed yesterday that he had authorized the use of plain clothes detectives on picket lines but denied they were being used as agents provocateurs.

He said: "If I get a brick thrown from the back of the crowd and one of my officers is injured, I must have at least a reasonable chance of finding out who threw it."

Kinnock campaign, page 21

"We want the maximum number of our employees to have the chance to earn money as the holiday season approaches."

Board officials said the increase in the number of miners reporting for work, up from 22,000 two weeks ago to

45,000 yesterday, indicated an increasing mood for a return to work.

Mr MacGregor said: "The electricity industry has other fuels available to it and at the present reduced rate of consumption has enough coal in stock to last well into the autumn. Our own stocks stand at well over 21 million tonnes."

Officials would not indicate how many pits might not reopen after a long closure and Mr MacGregor refused to reveal new figures on the five-week strike's financial impact on the industry although losses are now well over the £200m which the board estimated the action had cost up to the end of last month.

The board said miners' lost earnings through the strike and the overtime ban now amounted to £150m and would increase at the rate of £19m a week.

Mr David Owen, Chief Constable of North Wales, confirmed yesterday that he had authorized the use of plain clothes detectives on picket lines but denied they were being used as agents provocateurs.

He said: "If I get a brick thrown from the back of the crowd and one of my officers is injured, I must have at least a reasonable chance of finding out who threw it."

Kinnock campaign, page 21

"We want the maximum number of our employees to have the chance to earn money as the holiday season approaches."

Board officials said the increase in the number of miners reporting for work, up from 22,000 two weeks ago to

45,000 yesterday, indicated an increasing mood for a return to work.

Mr MacGregor said: "The electricity industry has other fuels available to it and at the present reduced rate of consumption has enough coal in stock to last well into the autumn. Our own stocks stand at well over 21 million tonnes."

Officials would not indicate how many pits might not reopen after a long closure and Mr MacGregor refused to reveal new figures on the five-week strike's financial impact on the industry although losses are now well over the £200m which the board estimated the action had cost up to the end of last month.

The board said miners' lost earnings through the strike and the overtime ban now amounted to £150m and would increase at the rate of £19m a week.

Mr David Owen, Chief Constable of North Wales, confirmed yesterday that he had authorized the use of plain clothes detectives on picket lines but denied they were being used as agents provocateurs.

He said: "If I get a brick thrown from the back of the crowd and one of my officers is injured, I must have at least a reasonable chance of finding out who threw it."

Kinnock campaign, page 21

"We want the maximum number of our employees to have the chance to earn money as the holiday season approaches."

Board officials said the increase in the number of miners reporting for work, up from 22,000 two weeks ago to

45,000 yesterday, indicated an increasing mood for a return to work.

Mr MacGregor said: "The electricity industry has other fuels available to it and at the present reduced rate of consumption has enough coal in stock to last well into the autumn. Our own stocks stand at well over 21 million tonnes."

Officials would not indicate how many pits might not reopen after a long closure and Mr MacGregor refused to reveal new figures on the five-week strike's financial impact on the industry although losses are now well over the £200m which the board estimated the action had cost up to the end of last month.

The board said miners' lost earnings through the strike and the overtime ban now amounted to £150m and would increase at the rate of £19m a week.

Mr David Owen, Chief Constable of North Wales, confirmed yesterday that he had authorized the use of plain clothes detectives on picket lines but denied they were being used as agents provocateurs.

He said: "If I get a brick thrown from the back of the crowd and one of my officers is injured, I must have at least a reasonable chance of finding out who threw it."

Kinnock campaign, page 21

"We want the maximum number of our employees to have the chance to earn money as the holiday season approaches."

Board officials said the increase in the number of miners reporting for work, up from 22,000 two weeks ago to

45,000 yesterday, indicated an increasing mood for a return to work.

Mr MacGregor said: "The electricity industry has other fuels available to it and at the present reduced rate of consumption has enough coal in stock to last well into the autumn. Our own stocks stand at well over 21 million tonnes."

Officials would not indicate how many pits might not reopen after a long closure and Mr MacGregor refused to reveal new figures on the five-week strike's financial impact on the industry although losses are now well over the £200m which the board estimated the action had cost up to the end of last month.

The board said miners' lost earnings through the strike and the overtime ban now amounted to £150m and would increase at the rate of £19m a week.

Mr David Owen, Chief Constable of North Wales, confirmed yesterday that he had authorized the use of plain clothes detectives on picket lines but denied they were being used as agents provocateurs.

He said: "If I get a brick thrown from the back of the crowd and one of my officers is injured, I must have at least a reasonable chance of finding out who threw it."

Kinnock campaign, page 21

"We want the maximum number of our employees to have the chance to earn money as the holiday season approaches."

Board officials said the increase in the number of miners reporting for work, up from 22,000 two weeks ago to

45,000 yesterday, indicated an increasing mood for a return to work.

Exam studies at risk as peace hopes fade in teachers' pay dispute

By Colin Hughes

Hopes of a settlement in the teachers' pay dispute crumbled yesterday, bringing closer the prospect of strikes disrupting preparation for O and A level examinations.

Teachers' union leaders believe that, unless the management panel of the Burslem teachers' pay committee either improves the offer or agrees to arbitration, the union conferences at Easter will call for extended strikes in selected areas.

On Thursday management representatives discussed improving the 3 per cent offer to 4.5 per cent, but the move was rejected by the majority of Conservative council leaders on the panel.

Another proposal, to ask the teachers to reduce their claim to 7.5 per cent and then go to arbitration, was not considered.

The unions met yesterday and issued a statement deplored the management failure to agree to arbitration. Mr Doug McAvoy, acting general sec-

retary of the National Union of Teachers, and the teachers' panel chairman, said that teachers are angry. "If the employers do not agree to arbitration we see industrial action in the schools as inevitable after Easter."

The executive of the National Union of Teachers is recommending its annual conference next weekend to agree to a one-day strike early next term, probably on May 9. But it is likely that there will be proposals from the floor for rolling area strikes and complete withdrawal of non-contractual duties, such as lunchtime supervision.

Mr Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, whose annual conference begins on Easter Monday, said: "Fascism will be much more inflamed there."

Most union leaders believe their members would have accepted 4.5 per cent two weeks ago, but even that would now be rejected by the conferences.

Senior civil pensions are adjusted

The Prime Minister yesterday announced an adjustment in pension payments for about one hundred retired senior civil servants, judges, and armed forces' officers who did not qualify for a staged pay rise last year.

Civil Service pay is normally increased from April 1 at the higher levels, but Mrs Margaret Thatcher last year announced a staged payment with a rise of just over 7 per cent on August 1 and a further increase from the start of this year.

Because pensions are linked to salary on retirement, people who retired between April 1 and July 31 failed to win the extra pension which they might have anticipated.

Mrs Thatcher said yesterday that there had been "representations", and she announced that the pensioners would receive "payments based on a notional pay increase from April 1.

But she said that if there was ever a staged award again, the same exception would not be repeated, and pensions would not be geared to "notional or deemed rates of salary which were not in payment" at the time of retirement.

Speed-up plan for GCHQ staff group

From Peter Hennessy

Senior managers at the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) at Cheltenham have produced an outline plan to speed up the foundation of a staff association replacing national trade unions that had been struck down since last month.

The association would have at its apex a departmental council chaired by Mr Peter Marbury, director of GCHQ, and including association representatives.

Subcommittees would work beneath it, and local affairs committees would operate in outstations in Britain and around the world.

In a letter to staff, Mr Anthony Hird, head of establishment, said: "The director will need to have detailed proposals for the staff associations before he is able to grant recognition and until that position has been reached no firm commitment can be given on what might be acceptable.

But the only provisos which are seen as necessary at this stage are that the staff association should have no affiliations to bodies outside GCHQ and that its membership should be open only to GCHQ staff.

The author, Mr John Kane, a former GCHQ employee, had written about his work as a senior radio supervisor at Cheltenham and at its Hong Kong outstation.

Thatcher praises docklands

Mrs Margaret Thatcher at the controls of an excavator yesterday during a tour of the London docklands which she promised would be transformed from dereliction into one of the most beautiful parts" of the capital. Accompanied by Mr Patrick Jenkins, Secretary of State for the Environment and members of the London Docklands Development Corporation, she praised the "remarkable progress" in the area where more than 1,000 homes have been completed and 1,000 permanent jobs created so far. Her views were not shared by groups of the East End of London who gathered to shout and jeer throughout the tour.

Ex-prison officer is jailed

A prison officer who tried to buy a Magnum gun and 12 bullets from a former prisoner was jailed by Chester Crown Court yesterday.

Thomas Taylor, aged 34, who has since resigned from Risley Remand Centre, near Warrington, pleaded guilty to attempting to obtain a firearm and ammunition without having a firearms certificate and to being in possession of cannabis resin. He was jailed for six months with one month suspended.

The court was told that the former prisoner, Mr Neil O'Brien, informed the police after Taylor asked him to supply a gun.



Champions return

The skating stars Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean flew into Heathrow from New York yesterday. Asked if they were to marry, Dean said: "Not yet. That's for the future". Miss Torvill said: "Not at the moment".

There was a round of applause when the couple, who had been holidaying in Barbados, emerged into the main concourse.

They will soon make a triumphant return to their

7% pay deal for civil servants

By Ian Griffiths

Leaders of Britain's 530,000 white-collar civil servants yesterday agreed to accept a 7 per cent pay offer, which is more than twice the Government's intended pay limit for the public sector.

To protect the lower paid, who total about 160,000 civil servants many of whom are clerical officers, they want a basic increase of £7 a week where a 7 per cent rise would not produce that amount.

The claim, recommended in London by the main policy committee of the Council of Civil Service Unions, is expected to be endorsed by the nine unions concerned in time for a meeting with the Treasury, probably next week.

Dating from April 1 this year, the claim is based on a report drawn up by the Office of Manpower Economics and commissioned by the Treasury. It shows that the average increase for white-collar workers in the private sector during the past year was 6 per cent.

Mr Powell pointed out the success that the present Parliament had had in attacking the profession's monopolies and said that its actions might increase.

He said: "It has early begun

Professions 'facing tougher controls'

By Ian Griffiths

Mr Enoch Powell, Official Unionist MP for Down, South, last night warned the professions that they would face increasing government intervention in the way that they regulate and discipline themselves.

Speaking to accountants in Wolverhampton, Mr Powell said: "It is my opinion that the inclination of public and Parliament is turning against private and in favour of public regulation, and that it will not be deterred by the specious argument that the statute book and the courts ought not to be cluttered with a mass of technical detail."

The professions have been under increasing pressure recently to improve their public accountability, and their right to continue as self-regulatory bodies is being challenged.

Mr Powell pointed out the success that the present Parliament had had in attacking the profession's monopolies and said that its actions might increase.

He said: "It has early begun

Miners' dispute

Kinnock presses for strike ballot

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock launched a campaign yesterday for a miners' strike ballot. After weeks of silence, the Labour leader spoke out in a television interview on Thursday night, the eve of Parliament's Easter recess, in favour of a national ballot.

He met Mr Derek Hatton, the deputy leader, and others, at the Department of the Environment. Mr Jenkins produced new figures showing, he said, that Liverpool had been given an easier spending target than any other metropolitan district: also the official assessment of its need to spend was higher than most others.

He told the councillors, who reaffirmed their plan to make a rate for 1984-85 insufficient to pay for spending, that two thirds of the districts had managed to set a rate increase in single figures and there was no reason why Liverpool could not do the same if it investigated the efficiency of its services and saved money.

At the meeting, there appeared to be less acrimony than last month when a deputation met Mr Jenkins and, according to official notes of the interview, threats were made against his home.

Mr Hanon talked afterwards of a government-sponsored inquiry which would disclose "maladministration" during the 10 years before Labour took office last May. During most of that period no single party had overall control.

But officials denied that Mr Jenkins had supported an inquiry. He had suggested that the councillors themselves apply to the Audit Commission for Local Government to conduct an efficiency study. Provided the councillors were prepared to fix a legal rate he would try to speed up such an investigation by auditors.

Mr Hanon said: "Any inquiry must produce the financial resources we need so that the city can continue".

The city council is to reconsider its budget for the financial year that began on April 1 at a special meeting on April 23. Mr Jenkins said he hoped "sensible councillors" could come together to agree a legal rate.

Mr Kinnock condemned intimidation on the picket lines.

Guardian condemned by NUJ

Form Barrie Clement
Labour Loughborough

Murshed heads for a lead

From Harry Golombok
Oakham

The action of *The Guardian* in handing over documents which led to the imprisonment of Sarah Tisdall was overwhelmingly condemned by delegates to the annual conference of the National Union of Journalists in Loughborough yesterday.

They also condemned the way Mr Peter Preston, editor of the newspaper, handled the affair and the "punitive" sentence handed out to Tisdall. And they unanimously passed resolutions underlying the importance of protecting sources of information.

Mr Aidan White, newly-elected treasurer of the union and a features subeditor at *The Guardian*, told the conference that protection of journalists' sources was a fundamental principle of the union. "Journalists should go to jail, not sources," he said.

Tisdall, aged 23, a former clerk in the Cabinet Office, was jailed for six months last month for breaches of the Official Secrets Act. On Monday she was refused leave to appeal against the sentence.

The newspapers' action in handing over the documents which led to the imprisonment of Sarah Tisdall meant that security officials had no difficulty identifying her.

• The conference delivered a rebuff to a proposal on new technology by the National Graphical Association, the printing trade union.

Overseas selling prices

Austria 5s 29; Belgium 6s 6s 50; Canada

Denmark 5s; France 5s 29; Germany 5s 50;

Italy 5s; Japan 5s 29; Luxembourg 5s 50;

Norway 5s 50; Pakistan 1s 1s; Portugal

5s 50; Spain 5s 50; Sweden 5s 50; Switzerland 5s 50; Turkey 5s 50; USA 5s 7s 50; Yugoslavia 5s 50.

Wool 10s

PARLIAMENT April 13 1984

Enterprise allowance scheme to be expanded

COMMONS

The enterprise allowance scheme, which encourages jobless people to set up their own businesses, has been so successful that the Government is urgently looking at ways of increasing the number of places available, Mr Alan Clark, Under-Secretary of State for Employment, announced in the Commons.

Under the scheme people who have been out of work for 13 weeks can apply for an allowance up to a maximum of £2,000 spread over a year to help set up a new enterprise.

Mr Clark said about £130m has been committed to the scheme and a total of 31,000 unemployed people had, up to the end of last month, set up their own business as a result. About 27,000 are currently receiving the allowance.

Mr Lewis Stevens (Nuneaton, C) who raised the take-up of the scheme during a short debate, said its success was reflected in the delay between application and take-up of a place. Originally it had been 12 weeks, but the scheme has been extended for placement and it now averages 15 weeks and in some cases was 24 weeks. Such delays were of considerable concern, and caused

One person had an idea for a new business but it was a blow to find they would not receive support quickly. People became disheartened and lost the will to go on.

The scheme could work even more effectively than it was now doing. It was already making a major contribution to the problem of rural parishes which are alleviated by a proper contribution from commercial interests.

Edward Taylor, Conservative MP for Southend East, said last month that agricultural exemption was a "grotesque anomaly".

and purposeful of all the Government's special employment measures for helping jobless people. Not only did it help unemployed people create their own jobs but was creating additional employment opportunities. He knew of a case where up to 10 additional jobs had been created. The scheme was not intended as a general small business subsidy. It was specifically intended to help unemployed people who wanted to set up their own business but were deterred from doing so because they would lose their entitlement to unemployment pay or supplementary benefit.

• "I believe we will do our very best in the light of the present success of the scheme to look at all the ways where we might find more scope for adding more places to the scheme.

He could not go along with increasing the allowance to individual units on the scheme. Demand was for greater availability.

After an initial trial period, the scheme was extended to the whole country in August. Out of the 31,000 unemployed people who had taken advantage of the scheme, 27,000 were now receiving the allowance, which reflected a very high survival rate. Only 12 per cent had dropped out during the year when they received allowances.

Early indications showed that three-quarters of those accepted for the scheme still in business several months after they had received their full year's allowance.

The scheme was making a positive impact into the unemployment totals. On average, for every 100 new businesses set up, 30 further jobs had been created. Two-thirds of those were part-time, but as the businesses flourished so did full-time jobs.

Mr Clark said the scheme had proved one of the most imaginative

and imaginative and purposeful scheme.

the scheme from the start but believed the Government should now review the whole operation and consider increasing subsidies to the amount of money paid in allowances and increase the number of places.

The scheme could work even more effectively than it was now doing. It was already making a major contribution to the problem of rural parishes which are alleviated by a proper contribution from commercial interests.

Edward Taylor, Conservative MP for Southend East, said last month that agricultural exemption was a "grotesque anomaly".

The scheme could work even more effectively than it was now doing. It was already making a major contribution to the problem of rural parishes which are alleviated by a proper contribution from commercial interests.

Mr Clark said the scheme had proved one of the most imaginative

Sale room

Office chairs become collectors' items

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room

That outstandingly ugly furniture found in London offices is now in the collecting class. Sotheby's had leather chairs with steel frames for sale yesterday - the spitting image of ones in the foyer at *The Times*.

Described as a "Barcelona chair and stool designed by Mies Van der Rohe in 1929", one set secured £990 (estimate £300 to £500) and another £572. A single matching stool sold for £350 (estimate £100 to £175).

There was some comfort in the fact that a Knoll "womb" chair with latex foam padding and orange wool upholstery with matching footstool, dating from 1948, was unsold at £260 (estimate £400 to £600) but a Herman Miller lounge chair and stool upholstered in black hide and swivelling on a five-footed base, designed by Charles Eames in 1956, made £704 (estimate £300 to £500).

Coming even further forward in time bidding became selective. A bright red plastic and tubular steel desk designed by V. Parisi and N. Prima around 1970, to look like a flashy washing up bowl was unsold at £700 (estimate £700 to £1,000) but a sofa constructed in the shape of lips in red jersey in the late 1960s, following a Salvador

Superman with a big stick . . .

From Philip Howard, Cardiff

Some talk of Alexander. For a change at the annual meeting of the Classical Association in Cardiff yesterday we talked of Hercules.

Dr Michael Silk of King's College, London, examined for us the problem of Hercules in Greek drama. Hercules was not begotten in one night. He was part Tarzan, part buffoon. He had a voracious appetite for food, booze and women; but he was also Superman with a big stick.

He is a versatile and complex chap who, at his time plays many parts. But the one part he has trouble playing is that of the hero in the tragedies about him by Sophocles and Euripides.

Dr Silk suggested that the trouble with Hercules as tragic hero was that he was half a god.

The Greeks were accustomed both to make fun of and to be in awe of their gods. Hercules

Made the thread of classical awareness that runs

through 14 centuries of Welsh literature. He argued convincingly that the most creative moments come when there is a tension between the native and the classical traditions. From Geoffrey of Monmouth down to the Renaissance, on to the fine Augustans and then to the fine modern Welsh poets, the Welsh developed their Roman roots in a different manner from the rest of Europe.

'Fantasy world' trickster who posed as surgeon jailed after operating on patients

A man who had posed as a surgeon, aristocrat, pop guitarist and ballet dancer was "brought back from the dead" after a recent prison suicide attempt, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Dominic Simon, aged 22, of Digby Crescent, Finsbury Park, London, admitted posing 45 offences including posing as a doctor and assaulting two patients, theft, fraud and deception. He was jailed for five years.

One of the patients, a woman at the University College Hospital, was said to have become terrified as he struggled to put a blood transfusion drip needle into her.

Mr Philip King, for the defence, told the court that Simon hanged himself in his cell and was "dead" when discovered. He had been brought back to life and had since been under 24-hour guard with medical care.

Simon was before the court

last October when he admitted posing as a doctor at nine leading London hospitals which he was said to have infiltrated with alarming ease. He performed several operations, stole from doctors and surgeons and once put 10 stitches in a patient's head wound.

Mr Graham Boal, for the prosecution, said that after walking out of a psychiatric hospital where he had been sent for assessment, he swindled two motor companies into parting with a £14,000 Porsche and a £45,000 Rolls-Royce, while posing as a dancer and as the grandson of Lord Belmont.

He dumped the cars after they had been damaged. The police caught up with him but he tricked them into granting him bail.

After staying with a family in Surrey over Christmas, again using a false identity, he travelled to Devon with a girl aged 16 who had become

"infatuated" with him and stole a puppy for her.

Arrested again, Simon escaped through a police station window. He took the identity of Dr Belmont claiming to be the son of Lord Belmont and maintained that he was a brain surgeon.

The court was told that he was finally arrested in January when he gatecrashed a party at a night club. Posing as Sir Charles Forte's grandson he ran up a bill for four bottles of Champagne, costing £55 each, one of which he sent to another guest, Koo Stark. He was penniless at the time.

Judge Lowry told Simon that living in a fantasy world but "cunningly and persistently" turned to crime. He had rejected leniency in the past.

"It is essential that you face reality," she added. "You have the ability not only to live in a fantasy world but to persuade others that the world exists, and now you must change."

Designer loses to Mothercare

A mother who designed a rain cape to protect her baby son from the Scottish Highland weather lost a High Court copyright action against the Mothercare chain yesterday.

Mr Justice Walton said the cape which Mme Gillian Merlet made in 1980 was "brilliantly simple". The British market had seen nothing like it before. However, it was not a "work of artistic craftsmanship" within the protection of the Copyright Act.

Mme Merlet, who lives with her French husband in Paris, had an "inventive turn of mind" and had always been interested in clothing and designing for babies.

One summer she had the idea for a cape for her baby when she visited her mother in Scotland.

The prototype, which she made on a domestic sewing machine, had been well used but was still in remarkably fine condition and there could be no doubt the originality of the idea, the judge said.

Mme Merlet thought she had invented a garment which was a success. She put cutting plans on paper and they fitted the bales of cloth "like a dream".

Her cape, which she called the "Raincosy", was produced at the Ladybird factory in Scotland and appeared to have been a "great success".

One of the garments copied Mothercare, which copied it, calling this version the "Carry Cape".

The judge said, however, that for Mme Merlet to have any copyright on her cape it must fall within the classification of works of artistic craftsmanship.

That was a difficult concept which had led to varying views in the House of Lords the object under consideration must have an artistic appeal in itself and it must be the makers' intention to create a work of art.

In creating her "Raincosy" Mme Merlet did not have in mind the creation of a work of art in any shape or form.

The judge said: "What she had in mind was the utilitarian intention of creating a barrier between her body and the rigours of the Highland climate".

Mme Merlet must pay Mothercare's costs of the three-day action.

Attacks on doctors to be investigated

An investigation into attacks by patients on doctors, nurses and other National Health Service staff has been launched by the Health Services Advisory Committee.

The inquiry follows a survey by the British Medical Association which found that 70 doctors had been victims of violent assaults in a 12-month period.

One doctor was nearly strangled with his own tie, another was thrown downstairs and a third was attacked by a patient with axe. Violence erupted in some cases when doctors refused to give drugs to addicts.

Doctors were also attacked by to return.

Creditors ask Bob Hope to repay £100,000

Bob Hope, the American comedian, is being asked to repay more than £100,000 to the company that ran his £1 million charity golf classic.

A chartered accountant, Mr David Buchler, whose partner was appointed liquidator of Feoffs Management, said after a creditors' meeting yesterday: "Discussions are taking place with Mr Hope to see if he might feel any obligation to give something back. He received well over £100,000."

The Official Receiver, Mr Geoffrey Gillray, said creditors have claims of £392,000. The company has assets of about £50,000. Mr Buchler insisted later, however, that when all creditors are considered debts will be more than £50,000. Creditors were told the

Retirement age fight

A woman dismissed at 60 by a multinational company may appeal to the European Court in an attempt to secure the right of women to work over that age.

A claim for unfair treatment by Mrs Peggy Duke against Reliance Systems, part of the GEC group, was rejected yesterday by an industrial tribunal in Bedford. But Mrs Duke, of north-west London, backed by the Equal Opportunities

Parcel theft postman sent to jail

A postman who hoarded parcels containing goods valued at tens of thousands of pounds was jailed for three years yesterday.

Douglas McKenzie, aged 50, of Summerhill Road, Glasgow, committed the thefts over 10 years and the High Court in Edinburgh was told it would be difficult to trace the owners.

The goods found by Post Office investigators, who caught McKenzie after setting a trap with a test parcel, include 314 watches, 61 cameras and 102 clocks. It took four vans to carry away 227 cardboard boxes filled with the items.

The Post Office is to auction the stolen items and the cash raised - expected to be thousands of pounds - will go to charity.

The judge, Lord Stott, said: "It is a very curious crime and suggests that there must be something very curious about the man who committed it."

Mr Hamish Stirling, for the defence, said McKenzie was "an introverted, solitary and lonely man" who had devoted his life to looking after his invalid mother.

Mr Gillray said: "A magazine article in November 1983, which reported that creditors were not being paid and that the company was days away from receivership, caused great unrest and dissatisfaction."

Backers who had been negotiating to finance the tournament lost interest. A creditors' meeting was called under voluntary winding-up proceedings but one creditor wanted the Official Receiver to investigate and obtained a High Court winding-up order.

No damages for boy who took insulin overdose

A diabetic boy who suffered brain damage after deliberately injecting himself with an overdose of insulin at Great Ormond Street Hospital, London, when he was aged 10, was not entitled to damages, a High Court judge ruled yesterday.

Stewart Johnston, now aged 19, took the overdose not because he intended to take his own life, but because of a desire to attract attention and probably to emulate an older boy he admired, who died soon after the incident, Mr Justice Glidlewell said.

"The effects on Stewart of the incident on January 24, 1976, have been nothing short of catastrophic," the judge said.

But the judge dismissed a negligence action brought by Mrs Mary Johnston, of Boworth Close, Hawkwell, Essex, against the hospital's board of governors.

Commission intends to pursue her case at the Employment Appeals Tribunal and the European Court.

She was a clerk at Reliance Systems in Wellington, Northamptonshire, until she was dismissed despite her wish to work on to support her disabled husband. A commission spokesman said: "This is an important test case which could force a change in the domestic law."

NO DAMAGES FOR BOY WHO TOOK INSULIN OVERDOSE

A diabetic boy who suffered brain damage after deliberately injecting himself with an overdose of insulin at Great Ormond Street Hospital, London, when he was aged 10, was not entitled to damages, a High Court judge ruled yesterday.

Stewart Johnston, now aged 19, took the overdose not because he intended to take his own life, but because of a desire to attract attention and probably to emulate an older boy he admired, who died soon after the incident, Mr Justice Glidlewell said.

"The effects on Stewart of the incident on January 24, 1976, have been nothing short of catastrophic," the judge said.

But the judge dismissed a negligence action brought by Mrs Mary Johnston, of Boworth Close, Hawkwell, Essex, against the hospital's board of governors.

Commission intends to pursue her case at the Employment Appeals Tribunal and the European Court.

She was a clerk at Reliance Systems in Wellington, Northamptonshire, until she was dismissed despite her wish to work on to support her disabled husband. A commission spokesman said: "This is an important test case which could force a change in the domestic law."

NO PENSION PLAN? LOOK WHAT YOU ARE MISSING!

By investing in a pension plan you can take advantage of the considerable tax concessions available to people who pay for their own pensions. The current tax laws allow you to contribute up to 17½% of your earnings* into a pension plan and get full tax relief on all of it.

If you pay tax at the basic rate of 30% and contribute £100 a month into a pension fund, it would cost you only £70 net! Furthermore, if you pay tax at the higher rate of 45% it would cost you just £55 for every £100 you want to put into the scheme.

The illustrated figures can be so spectacular they take some believing! For instance, if you started at age 38 and saved £50 a month until retirement at 65 your projected cash fund would be no less than £140,514 (based upon current bonus rates which are not guaranteed and can of course vary). You could take this as a full pension of £22,926 p.a. - or as a lump sum of £46,168 tax free, with a reduced pension of £13,670 (based on current annuity rates). Full bonus details are included in your Free Personal Illustration.

THE TAX-MAN'S CONTRIBUTION

Personal Pensions are outstanding investments because of the considerable tax concessions you get. You receive maximum relief on your contributions - at the highest rate you pay on your earnings.

In addition, your contributions go into a special Sun Alliance Fund which is free of most U.K. taxes, which means your investment can grow much faster.

Naturally, your pension cheque is subject to

Sir John Gielgud, 80 today, returns to centre stage

By John Witherow
Sir John Gielgud, looking slightly embarrassed by all the fuss, took a mere five puffs to blow out the 80 candles on his birthday cake yesterday on the Old Vic stage where he made his acting debut 63 years ago.

So large was the edifice of icing and marzipan that it required Superman, in the form of Christopher Reeve, to haul it on to the stage before an audience liberally sprinkled with some of the most famous names in British theatre.

Sir John, looking remarkable fit and speaking in that voice which one critic described as "all cells and woodwind", said he intended to spend his birthday today answering letters from "hordes of well-wishers".

It was an occasion full of nostalgia for one of the foremost knights of the theatre. Not only was the Old Vic the first theatre where he trod the boards as a herald in *Henry V*, but it was also the scene of many of his finest performances.

Among those was his Hamlet, considered by many to be the finest this century. The theatre also witnessed his superb Romeo and unsupasable Prospero in *The Tempest*. By 1930, at the age of 26, he was regarded as a prodigy and the Old Vic was the temple where his fans went to worship.

Looking round at the refurbished building, he recalled how he had shared a dressing room with Sir Ralph Richardson who was full of rubbish. Sir Ralph had leaned forward and said: "Isn't this wonderful? This is real theatre."

Yesterday's occasion, Sir John said, "was an unexpected bonus to a wonderful life and a very happy career. I've been enormously spoilt, really only because I've managed to survive. I have very little to offer at the moment, but I hope one day I might."

After cutting the cake Sir John retired to the dress circle, where he sipped a glass of champagne and looked down at such actors and actresses as Edward Fox, Glenda Jackson, Trevor Howard and Derek Nimmo who had come to pay their respects.



Government to step up drink-drive campaign

The Government is to step up its campaign against drink-driving by attempting to change public attitudes, especially among young people.

A new leaflet from the Transport and Road Research Laboratory detailing how alcohol affects driving capacity is to be given national circulation. Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State in the Department of Transport, disclosed yesterday.

Campaigns similar to those at Christmas may be mounted at other times of the year such as spring, when drink-driving is just as great, she told the International Alcohol Conference in Liverpool.

Mr Chalker ruled out new regulations and police measures against drink-driving, although the offence had resumed its rising trend after the initial impact of the breath test.

"The fundamental problem we face in countering drinking and driving is that all too many people - most of them responsible law-abiding citizens in every other respect - regard it as perfectly normal and reasonable to take the wheel of a car after drinking significant quantities of alcohol."

Drink caused more than 1,000 deaths on Britain's roads last year. More than a third of all drivers killed, and two-thirds of those killed after 10pm on Fridays and Saturdays, had excess alcohol in their blood.

Deputy Speaker fined £80

The Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons, Mr Ernest Armstrong, was fined £80 at St Neots, Cambridgeshire, yesterday for careless driving and had three penalty points put on his licence.

Mr Armstrong, aged 69, Labour MP for Durham North-West, had skidded into a car on the A1 because he did not see vehicles ahead braking until too late.

SELF-EMPLOYED? NO PENSION WITH YOUR JOB? KEEP THIS PAGE.

"I hope to get a £59,000 lump sum and a pension of £17,500 a year."

Mr J. Newsagent, Dover. Aged 34.

Mr J. would pay £40 (£28 net with tax relief at 30%) a month over 31 years.

"After 23 years in the plan I could get a lump sum of £39,000 and a pension of £11,500 a year."

Mr L. Self-employed quantity surveyor, Wrexham. Aged 42.

Mr L. would pay £70 (£49 net with tax relief at 30%) a month.

"I never got round to saving for a pension - we try to get by on £55 a week for two."

Mr D. Retired Plumber, Durham City. Aged 70.

The state pension is currently less than £55 a week for a married couple.

YOUR OWN PENSION FUND COULD BE WORTH MORE THAN £100,000

Providing a tax-free lump sum plus a monthly income.

The Sun Alliance Personal Pension Plan.

£ Sizeable reduction in your personal tax bill.

£ Big tax-free lump sum available when you retire.

£ Guarantees you a lifetime pension, too.

NO PENSION PLAN? LOOK WHAT YOU ARE MISSING!

By investing in a pension plan you can take advantage of the considerable tax concessions available to people who pay for their own pensions. The current tax laws allow you to contribute up to 17½% of your earnings* into a pension plan and get full tax relief on all of it.

So you can see that if you do not have a pension it's a sad waste of a golden opportunity. With the Sun Alliance Personal Pension Plan you could be enjoying the fruits of your work long after it is over. Without your pension plan, the income tax you pay when you're working is lost and gone forever.

The illustrated figures can be so spectacular they take some believing! For instance, if you started at age 38 and saved £50 a month until retirement at 65 your projected cash fund would be no less than £140,514 (based upon current bonus rates which are not guaranteed and can of course vary). You could take this as a full pension of £22,926 p.a. - or as a lump sum of £46,168 tax free, with a reduced pension of £13,670 (based on current annuity rates). Full bonus details are included in your Free Personal Illustration.

The

TV victory for Whitehouse as judges rebuke IBA on 'Scum'

The Independent Broadcasting Authority was criticized in the Court of Appeal yesterday over the screening of the controversial film *Scum* about life in a borstal.

Mr John Whitney, director-general of the IBA, made a "grave error of judgment" in making a personal decision to show the film without referring it to the authority.

It had been taken to court by Mrs Mary Whitehouse, the television campaigner, who said later she was happy at the decision and thought Mr Whitney, "might like to reconsider his role".

Lord Justice Watkins said it was "outstandingly important that so powerful a thing in our lives as television be carefully controlled. If those empowered by Parliament to control it were to fail in their duties, albeit unwittingly and unintentionally, much harm could be done."

He would have opposed the showing of *Scum*, screened on Channel 4 at 11pm on June 10 last year. "It is, I think, gratuitously offensive and revolting without the slightest attempt to introduce any element of fairness or make any attempt to provide a balanced view of borstal."

But Mr Justice Taylor, his fellow judge in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court, said he would have allowed it to be shown.

He said: "There can be no doubt that both the language and content of the film were shocking. But it is possible for a programme to shock without falling foul of the 1981 Broadcasting Act."

Labour gets 39% lead in Scots poll

From Ronald Faux
Edinburgh

One of the sharpest swings in public opinion towards the Labour Party in Scotland on record was reflected in a poll published yesterday. A 39 per cent lead for Labour over the Conservatives, with the Alliance and the SNP barely in double figures, has boosted Labour's hopes for the Scottish district elections in three weeks' time.

Labour already controls 26 of the 52 district councils in Scotland; if the latest swing were achieved councils which would go to Labour would include Edinburgh.

The poll, by System Three for The Glasgow Herald, puts Labour 17 points ahead of the combined total of its three main opponents.

The question "If there were a general election tomorrow, which party would you vote for?" was put to the sample shortly after the Budget which contained some measures that met with particular hostility in Scotland. Value-added tax on takeaway meals, the future of the Scott Lithgow shipyard, rate capping and the issue of GCHQ and its effect on trade unions could all have contributed towards a swing to Labour. The poll was based on 987 adults in 38 constituencies.

	General Election June 1983	Now	March
C	19	24	28
Lab	58	51	35
All	12	13	25
SNP	10	12	11

Figures exclude the undecided, those who refused to answer or would not vote.

Editors warned against publicizing empty homes

Newspapers should be cautious in publishing anything which reveals that a house is likely to be unoccupied and therefore at risk, the Press Council said yesterday.

The council also recommended editors to emphasize to reporters and other staff without authority to give undertakings about what will or will not be published that they should make this clear if asked.

A complaint that the *Yorkshire Evening Press* broke an undertaking not to publish that a couple were on holiday, thus leading to a burglary risk at their home, was upheld.

Newbold Kay & Sons, York solicitors, complained to the council on behalf of Mr and Mrs R. Hodgson, of Rawcliffe Lane, York.

The newspaper published a report of a car crash outside their home the day after they had gone on holiday to Spain. It quoted their son, Christopher, aged 18, a college student, and mentioned that his parents were away.

The solicitors told the editor that a neighbour, Mrs A. Dawson, telephoned the newspaper for an assurance that the Hodgsons' absence would not be publicized.

She spoke to a reporter, Miss Susan Braine, who replied that she could not make the decision — but, having spoken to someone else in the office, she assured Mrs Dawson that the

film had an "honest and sincere" purpose and he did not agree with Mrs Whitehouse that it included violence for its own sake. But he agreed that, with such a "highly controversial film" which had been rejected by the BBC and had been shown in the cinema with an X-certificate, there was a need for "anxious consideration" before showing it.

They jointly gave Mrs Whitehouse a declaration that, having regard to the IBA's statutory duties and to the history of divergent opinion about the film, the director-general committed a "grave error of judgment in not referring it to the authority".

Lord Justice Watkins said it was "outstandingly important that so powerful a thing in our lives as television be carefully controlled. If those empowered by Parliament to control it were to fail in their duties, albeit unwittingly and unintentionally, much harm could be done."

He would have opposed the showing of *Scum*, screened on Channel 4 at 11pm on June 10 last year. "It is, I think, gratuitously offensive and revolting without the slightest attempt to introduce any element of fairness or make any attempt to provide a balanced view of borstal."

Lord Justice Watkins said it was "outstandingly important that so powerful a thing in our lives as television be carefully controlled. If those empowered by Parliament to control it were to fail in their duties, albeit unwittingly and unintentionally, much harm could be done."

He said that Mrs Whitehouse, president of the National Viewers' and Listeners' Association, had sufficient interest as a licence holder to seek her declaration. They awarded her costs.

She said afterwards: "My position has been clearly vindicated. The verdict underlines the rights of an ordinary citizen to question the standards of our television programmes."

Law Report, page 30

Party killer jailed for five years

From Ronald Faux
Edinburgh

A man who shot two people after being provoked by noise from their four-day party was jailed for five years yesterday.

At Birmingham Crown Court William McFall, aged 54, was found guilty of manslaughter and wounding but cleared of murder and attempted murder.

Mr Anthony Palmer QC, for the prosecution, said that after three sleepless nights McFall left his home in Balsall Heath, Birmingham, in the early hours and fired two revolver shots into a room crowded with partygoers at a maisonette in a neighbouring street, shouting: "You have driven me to the limit". He told the police when arrested that he just wanted to stop the noise.

Mr Christopher Williams, aged 20, died when a bullet lodged in his brain.

Manfredo Velásquez parked his car, and as he got out a car without a number plate drew up on one side of him and a motor cycle with a pillion passenger on the other side. He was surrounded by seven armed men, bundled into the car and driven away. That was in 1981, and he has not been seen since.

This incident, common enough in recent Latin American history, did not take place in El Salvador or in Argentina during the "dirty war", but in Honduras, where a democratically elected civilian Government took office in 1982 after 17 years of military rule.

The "disappearance" of Manfredo Velásquez changed the life of his sister, Zenaida, who had not previously taken much interest in politics. She discovered that other families had suffered similar losses, and by November, 1982, had persuaded three of them to join her in forming a committee to press the authorities for an explanation. She was in London this week in the course of a European tour to publicize the plight of Honduras' "disappeared".

She emphasizes that the scale of the problem in Honduras is relatively small: there are 12

Star of Bethlehem: Simon Ward will play Christ in the York mystery plays at St Mary's Abbey from June 8 to July 2.

The medieval drama is staged every four years with a professional actor as Christ and local people in other parts.

Editors warned against publicizing empty homes

Newspapers should be cautious in publishing anything which reveals that a house is likely to be unoccupied and therefore at risk, the Press Council said yesterday.

The council also recommended editors to emphasize to reporters and other staff without authority to give undertakings about what will or will not be published that they should make this clear if asked.

A complaint that the *Yorkshire Evening Press* broke an undertaking not to publish that a couple were on holiday, thus leading to a burglary risk at their home, was upheld.

Newbold Kay & Sons, York solicitors, complained to the council on behalf of Mr and Mrs R. Hodgson, of Rawcliffe Lane, York.

The newspaper published a report of a car crash outside their home the day after they had gone on holiday to Spain. It quoted their son, Christopher, aged 18, a college student, and mentioned that his parents were away.

The solicitors told the editor that a neighbour, Mrs A. Dawson, telephoned the newspaper for an assurance that the Hodgsons' absence would not be publicized.

She spoke to a reporter, Miss Susan Braine, who replied that she could not make the decision — but, having spoken to someone else in the office, she assured Mrs Dawson that the

Nicaraguan rebels launch two-pronged offensive

Contras claim 2,000 Sandinistas under siege

From Alan Tomlinson

Tegucigalpa, 13 April — American-backed counter-revolutionary forces have launched a big offensive involving up to 8,000 men against Sandinista Army positions in Northern and Central Nicaragua.

Fighting is reported to be heavy in a number of areas, including the important garrison towns of Waslala, 60 miles inside the country on the boundary between Matagalpa and Zelaya Norte departments, and at Rio Blanco, 25 miles

deeper into Matagalpa, at the geographical centre of Nicaragua.

This is the first time in 18 months of Guerrilla warfare launched from camps along the Honduran border that the main "contra" Group, the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), has been able to sustain large scale, coordinated assaults on strictly military targets in the heart of Nicaragua.

Previous offensives have been characterized by hit-and-run raids in areas nearer the

border. But by late March FDN columns, some of which had marched for three weeks over the mountains, were in a position to launch a concerted offensive against Waslala and Rio Blanco, the two main Sandinista garrisons in the region.

They began their assault on April 3 and 4, first picking off smaller satellite garrisons around Waslala. Señor Edgar Chamorro, a member of the FDN's four-man directorate, said the garrisons at Yaoka, Dudu and Khalil had been

overrun. 260 Government troops killed or wounded, three bridges blown up and several army lorries destroyed.

He said an estimated 2,000 Sandinista troops were isolated and under siege in Waslala itself, a strategically important town with controls access to the Siuna goldmine and Puerto Cabezas on the east coast.

Simultaneously, another large force hit Sandinista positions around Rio Blanco, although the main garrison had not yet come under attack.

Coordinated assaults have

also been launched near the border town of Ocotal in Nueva Segovia province, Pueblo Nuevo and Condega in Esteli, Ciudad Antigua and Delbanco in Madriz and Cerro Helado near Jinotega, where sources in Nicaragua confirmed FDN claims that two Sandinista helicopters had been shot down.

A measure of the Nicaraguan Government's concern was a rare press conference in Managua at which the Army Chief of Staff, Comandante Joaquin, described the offensive as the

largest yet launched by the contras. In the past, the Sandinistas have tended to play down the effectiveness.

● **MANAGUA:** Nicaraguan troops were holding off a rebel attack on the Atlantic part of San Juan del Norte a few miles from the Costa Rican border and had inflicted heavy casualties on the insurgents, a military spokesman said yesterday (Reuters report).

He dismissed claims by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (Arde) that the part had been captured.

Bolivians stunned by austerity

La Paz (Reuters) — Shops closed and transport stopped as Bolivian workers staged a 24-hour strike in the first angry reaction to the Government's harsh austerity measures in which the peso was devalued 75 per cent.

Sugar, bread, oil and rice rose between 110 and 460 per cent. Petrol soared 400 per cent. President Hernan Siles Zanin described the long-delayed economic package as "vital and absolutely necessary".

The International Monetary Fund has recommended tough measures as a condition for a loan to help repay Bolivia's \$4.4m foreign debt.

Germans jail Germans

Stuttgart (AP) — A West German court sentenced Reiner Paul Füll, an East German described as a top agent, to six years jail for selling secret information about a nuclear research centre.

In East Berlin, Maximilian Leibrecht, a West German, was imprisoned for 12 years for spying on airports and troop movements.

Do's pardon

Abidjan (Reuters) — President Samuel Doe of Liberia has pardoned his former Army chief, Brigadier-General Thomas Quiwonka, the alleged leader of a plot to overthrow him. Monrovia radio reported General Quiwonka is widely believed to have fled to the United States.

Pool death

Hongkong (AP) — A British lawyer, John Richard Wimbush, aged 47, was found dead in his swimming pool with a nylon cord tied around his neck. He had returned to Hongkong on Thursday after a holiday in Britain where his wife and two children remained.

Papers hit back

Rabat (Reuters) — Ten Moroccan political party dailies did not appear yesterday in a protest against a government decision to allow the printing of foreign newspapers in Morocco which they regard as a threat to their livelihood.

Miners killed

Johannesburg (Reuters) — Two gold miners were killed and four were missing after an accident one and a half miles below ground at the East Rand Proprietary Mine. All were black.

Italy cut off

Rome (AP) — A 24-hr strike by airport ground workers paralysed air traffic in Italy, halting all domestic and most international flights. Only a few international flights by foreign carriers were allowed to land.

Sikhs march

Amritsar (Reuters) — Thousands of sword-waving Sikhs marched peacefully through Amritsar to demonstrate their religious and political strength. More than 700 police and troops lined the route.

Jump reprieve

Washington (Reuters) — The US Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland, reversed an earlier decision and decided not to dismiss a woman cadet who refused through fear to make a training jump from a 34 ft tower into a swimming pool.

Metro gassed

Paris (AP) — Two unidentified men released noxious gas in the Franklin Roosevelt Metro station causing it to be evacuated. Three other stations had also to be cleared.

Killed by fish

Santo Stefano, Brazil (AP) — Ten fishermen were crushed to death under tons of salted fish and 41 others injured when their lorry hit a mule and turned over near here.

Press

Montevideo (AP) — The Uruguayan newspaper *El Popular* has been fined \$100,000 for publishing a front-page article on the death of a police officer.

But delegates to this week's meeting held under the United Nations Environment Programme's regional seas plan, said: "There could be a connection between high plankton growth and sewage outfalls and increased numbers of jellyfish which feed off plankton."

Some experts said a decline in numbers of marine turtles in the Mediterranean had contributed to the problem. The turtles, it is suggested, choke on plastic bags around tourist resorts. Greece pushed strongly for adoption of the plan.

Marine biologists in Malta, Yugoslavia and Greece



Colorado cowboy: Senator Gary Hart visiting a shop selling western clothes near his home in Denver.

\$125,000 plan to cure the Mediterranean's big sting

From Mario Modiano

Athens

Sixteen Mediterranean countries agreed yesterday to spend £125,000 on a two-year study of the jellyfish swarms which have plagued the eastern Mediterranean over the past five summers.

Fishermen, coastguards and scuba divers will monitor jellyfish "blooms", dense trans-

parent masses of jellyfish in which each individual can break down into more than 100 jellyfish buds.

Little is known about the habits of the jellyfish, but it is threatening to disrupt the tourist industry in the Aegean islands. Greece pushed strongly for adoption of the plan.

Marine biologists in Malta, Yugoslavia and Greece

will try to determine whether the increased jellyfish population is linked with high pollution levels in the Mediterranean.

Dr Stepan Keckes, director of the United Nations Environment Programme's regional seas plan, said: "There could be a connection between high plankton growth and sewage outfalls and increased numbers of jellyfish which feed off plankton."

LA goes overboard for Prince Andrew

From Ivor Davis
Los Angeles

Although technically speaking Prince Andrew's visit to southern California is not an official one, the arrival of the Prince is generating the same kind of media excitement that surrounded last year's visit by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh to the West Coast.

From the moment he steps on to Los Angeles soil tomorrow evening, he will plunge into a crowded four days of non-stop activities, a promotion of Beverly Hills' British Fortnight, a fund-raiser for his old school, Gordonstoun, a meeting with the movie stars and another fund-raising event, this time for the British Olympic team.

This function, with tickets selling for £1,000 (£700), \$500 and \$250, will be hosted by Michael Caine, with entertainment provided by Julie Andrews, Sheena Easton, Cleo Laine and John Dankworth.

Many foreign magazines and newspapers are sending representatives. Mr John Hulton, British Vice-Consul in Los Angeles, commented: "We seem to spend a great deal of time telling American TV and newspaper people that Prince Andrew will not give interviews, or appear on TV talk shows, although he will be available for pictures everywhere he goes".

Nevertheless, the press is gearing up to dog the Prince's footsteps, and he is expected to be given intense exposure on nightly television news shows, with the kind of coverage given to Presidents and superstars.

The Hollywood portion of his trip includes a visit on Tuesday to the set of the new film 2010, a sequel to Stanley Kubrick's classic 2001: a Space Odyssey. At Metro Goldwyn Mayer studios will see a Hollywood-style spaceship and meet the film's stars, Roy Scheider, John Lithgow and Helen Mirren.

There will be many film personalities, too, on Wednesday at the British Olympic USH Committee's most ambitious fundraiser. The group, established two years ago to raise money for the British team to compete in Los Angeles in July, hopes to buy its finest and most lucrative hour.

The Prince is also likely to meet Cary Grant and the screen's two James Bonds, Roger Moore and Sean Connery.

To avoid being accused of mixing only with the rich and famous Prince Andrew is to be taken to a new Hispanic cultural centre at Plaza de la Raza, in the city's Mexican-American district, and then on to visit the black ghetto of Watts, scene of bloody rioting in the sixties.

The American committee for Gordonstoun's golden jubilee has arranged a dinner on Monday night. About 60 Americans, men and women, who have been to the school over the past four years will be there.

As a naval pilot, Prince Andrew will get a chance to see aerospace past, present and future. He will step into the cockpit of the late Howard Hughes' Spruce Goose, the largest flying boat ever built, which is now a tourist attraction alongside the old Queen Mary in Long Beach.

He will go to San Diego US Naval Air Station to fly the Navy's newest SH-60 helicopter, and fly back to Los Angeles in the new British Aerospace 146 jet, which was recently purchased by the US commuter line, PSA.

There is also a visit to the jet propulsion laboratory in Pasadena, where the Prince will see the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's latest space projects, and then go down the road to the California Institute of Technology to take a look at the Institute's seismological laboratory, which monitors earthquakes in California and around the world.

Indonesian envoy says Papuans expelled him

From Our Correspondent
Jakarta

Indonesia's military attaché in Port Moresby has returned to Jakarta, saying he has been expelled from Papua New Guinea on the eve of sensitive bilateral talks on border problems.

The attaché, Lieutenant-Colonel Ismail, declined to give further details on his arrival at Halim airport, and Foreign Ministry spokesmen, who last week had said that Colonel Ismail might be recalled to prevent his expulsion, refused to say whether he had been recalled or expelled.

The foreign ministers of the two countries, which are separated by an ill-defined 500-mile jungle border on the island of New Guinea, are scheduled to meet tomorrow for their first top-level talks on a series of border incidents in February and March. The most serious, the alleged violation of Papuan airspace by Indonesian F5E fighters on March 27, is expected to top the agenda.

The Indonesians have repeatedly denied that their planes crossed the border.



Cop of the Month: New York's City Police Commissioner Mr Benjamin Ward makes a special award to robot RM3, a mobile investigator which helped overpower two bandits in a shootout.

Chernenko's week, Gorbachov's future

From Richard Owen, Moscow

"The week belonged to Chernenko, but the future belongs to young Gorbachov," one veteran Kremlin watcher said after this week's meetings of the Central Committee and Supreme Soviet.

With the title of President, Mr Chernenko, aged 72, has added international prestige to the real power he already wields as General Secretary of the party. But two months after succeeding Yuri Andropov, Mr Chernenko was unable – or unwilling – to put his own team in place.

The plenum was unusually short, not because Mr Chernenko had it all sewn up but because there were no Politburo changes to discuss. Similarly, there were no changes in the ministerial list presented by the reappointed Prime Minister, Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, except for a new Justice Minister, Mr Boris Kravtsov, who was 61. Mr Chernenko, who is 72, is the gerontocracy continues, in the Politburo by the thrusting young generation of men in their fifties who have time on their side.

The main beneficiary, on present evidence, is Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the "boy" of the leadership at 53. A stocky, prematurely balding man with a large birthmark on his forehead, Mr Gorbachov was Mr Andropov's chief lieutenant and came across to Russians and foreigners as articulate and intelligent. He has broadened his powers to include personnel "causes" and

Russia, in other words, is marking time. The formal resignation of the Government at the newly-elected Supreme Soviet provided a suitable occasion for Mr Tikhonov to step down. If Mr Tikhonov were still alive, Mr Gorbachov – who nominated Mr Chernenko for head of state on Wednesday – can expect to find himself nominated by his successor, when Mr Chernenko dies, or appointed.

There are no foregone conclusions in Soviet politics on the other hand, and veteran observers recall that Georgy Malenkov – now forgotten – was considered the only heir to Stalin, but was outmanoeuvred by Khrushchev. There are other candidates today: Mr Gédir Aliyev, the Deputy Prime Minister, who is Azeri, and Mr Vortovnikov, perhaps, who is 57. As it is, the gerontocracy continues, in the Politburo by the thrusting young generation of men in their fifties who have time on their side.

The main beneficiary, on present evidence, is Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the "boy" of the leadership at 53. A stocky, prematurely balding man with a large birthmark on his forehead, Mr Gorbachov was Mr Andropov's chief lieutenant and came across to Russians and foreigners as articulate and intelligent. He has broadened his powers to include personnel "causes" and

the long-term target is the next party congress in 1986, when a new Central Committee will be elected. Mr Gorbachov, who will still be only 55, must move to build up his power base in the party, while keeping the Andropov economic and administrative reform programme alive despite Mr Chernenko's hints this week that experiments must be "carefully considered" and that there is nothing much wrong with the existing structure.

The "togetherness" pact, which was worked out in detail, involves the Grenada National Party of Mr Hubert Blaize, aged 65, who was Premier 20 years ago, the New Democratic Party of Mr George Brizan, which commands respect but not much mass support, and the Grenada Democratic Movement, led by Barbados-based lawyer, Mr Francis Alexis.

The new grouping could offer the first plausible political alternative, particularly if the conservatism of Mr Blaize and Mr Alexis is balanced by the more Social Democratic approach of Mr Brizan.

Sir Eric Gairy's hopes of a GULP election victory rest mainly on a split opposition and an early poll. Some of his support is said to be drifting away to a new party led by Mr Winston Whyte, a former detainee.

Sir Eric, whose earlier regime was described by the foreign affairs committee as "corrupt, repressive and sustained by rigged elections", is believed to have his sights on the Governor-General's job, held by Sir Paul Scoon.

After marching for four days, 4,000 farmers, workers and students from three towns converged on the central Philippines city of Bacolod yesterday to demonstrate against military "persecution" of the Church and to denounce the continued detention of three Roman Catholic priests on trial for murder.

Chanting "freedom" and "the Negros Nine", the demonstrators carried placards denouncing military abuses and

and claim they are victims of a military "frame-up" because of their success in mobilizing the poor. Islanders against military abuses, land-grabbing and local government corruption.

The nine accused were allowed out of the common cell to watch the marchers pass by the jail's main gate. Many marchers cried, others cheered and waved. Food and presents were passed through the gate to the priests.

They have pleaded not guilty

Friends sorry for 'senile' Britain

From Jeremy Taylor
Trinidad

Popular opinion in the Caribbean uses a stronger word than "lethargy" to describe the British Government's handling of last October's crisis in Grenada. So, in private, do some of the Caribbean leaders who sent token forces to join the Americans. But most of the region concurs with the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Commons, which reported last week that Britain "reacted passively".

There have been no serious second thoughts since October about the military intervention. The Prime Ministers of Barbados, Dominica and St. Lucia, who played leading roles in encouraging it, have consistently defended the decision. Critics of the move still face the indignant rhetorical question: "So what would you have done?"

There has been no serious challenge so far to continued American influence in Grenada, or to the extreme circumspection of the interim advisory Council, which is providing Grenada with a lethargic break from domestic politics.

The council has politely asked Washington to return more than 25 tons of documents covering the 1979-83 revolution; but has twice been unsuccessful. The Americans have been publishing carefully-selected extracts from this material, which ranges from inter-government agreements to the diary of General Hudson Austin.

The damage sustained by British political and commercial interests in the Caribbean has been less than was feared at the time, though the feeling has been strengthened that Britain is withdrawing from the area and leaving the future to the Americans, who have a far higher profile.

It is not a case of anti-British feeling but sorrow at the senile incapacity of the old "mother country" to focus on the needs of her offspring.

Ironically, the Foreign Affairs Committee tried hard to dramatize these problems in a report issued in December 1982. "We do not believe that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office has paid (Grenada) sufficient attention," it said, complaining that briefings supplied by the FCO "did not reach the usual standards".

The committee's representation in Grenada is one lonely diplomat, and argues that British aid could "reinforce stability" in the area. Grenada's neighbours it noted, were critical not only of the revolution but of Britain's acquiescence in the American policy of isolation and exclusion.

In Grenada itself, where

government media and public

relations staff are being

retrained by a man from the

Central Office of Information,

elections are expected around

November, in spite of the

island's weariness with politics

A special high-security court was prepared for the appearance on April 4 of 20 former government and military officers, including the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Bernard Coard, and the trial was adjourned to April 25.

Three of the many opposition parties joined forces last week in a move to occupy the long-vacant centre ground in Grenadian politics, between the former Prime Minister, Sir Eric Cairy and his GULP (Grenada United Labour Party), on the right, and remnants of the New Jewel Movement on the left.

The "togetherness" pact, which was worked out in detail, involves the Grenada National Party of Mr Hubert Blaize, aged 65, who was Premier 20 years ago, the New Democratic Party of Mr George Brizan, which commands respect but not much mass support, and the Grenada Democratic Movement, led by Barbados-based lawyer, Mr Francis Alexis.

The new grouping could offer the first plausible political alternative, particularly if the conservatism of Mr Blaize and Mr Alexis is balanced by the more Social Democratic approach of Mr Brizan.

Sir Eric Gairy's hopes of a GULP election victory rest mainly on a split opposition and an early poll. Some of his support is said to be drifting away to a new party led by Mr Winston Whyte, a former detainee.

Sir Eric, whose earlier regime was described by the foreign affairs committee as "corrupt, repressive and sustained by rigged elections", is believed to have his sights on the Governor-General's job, held by Sir Paul Scoon.

After marching for four days, 4,000 farmers, workers and students from three towns converged on the central Philippines city of Bacolod yesterday to demonstrate against military "persecution" of the Church and to denounce the continued detention of three Roman Catholic priests on trial for murder.

Chanting "freedom" and "the Negros Nine", the demonstrators carried placards denouncing military abuses and

and claim they are victims of a military "frame-up" because of their success in mobilizing the poor. Islanders against military abuses, land-grabbing and local government corruption.

The nine accused were allowed out of the common cell to watch the marchers pass by the jail's main gate. Many marchers cried, others cheered and waved. Food and presents were passed through the gate to the priests.

They have pleaded not guilty

THE ARTS

Theatre

Performed on principal

Donald Cooper

Venice Preserv'd

Lyttelton



Iron sense of style: Jane Lapotaire and Michael Pennington

Otway's play is the generally favoured candidate in the extremely short list of stageable Restoration tragedies, but if it is a tragedy it is one in a category of its own.

Not the least misleading thing about it is the title. Based on Venetian history, but also full of echoes from the Popish Plot and *Julius Caesar*, it swiftly turns aside from all these public issues in favour of a doomed love triangle between the two main conspirators, Jaffier and Pierre, and Jaffier's wife, Belvidera.

The plot to assassinate the Senate may arise from republican idealism, but no sooner does it get under way than Otway exposes the rebels as no less corrupt than their masters, and the preservation of Venice emerges as a matter of small importance in comparison with the fate of the three principals.

This point is centrally focused in the linked characters of the Senator, Antonio and the conspiratorial master mind, Renault; both based on the figure of the Earl of Shaftesbury. The villainous Renault contradicts his political heroism by trying to rape Belvidera.

Antonio presents the comic side of the coin in flights of marvellously parodied political rhetoric, the "Nicky-Nacky" scenes with his retainer countess, Aquilina, in which sadomasochism takes its bow on the English stage. These scenes were often apologized for and cut in performance, and, quite aside from sexual element, they are all too liable to disrupt the surrounding play.

The main action is conducted with all the chaste dignity of an Augustan historical painting, and the arrival of Antonio, a thoroughly private person, invading the formal space and revealing squallid personal secrets which otherwise are swept out of sight is likely to reveal the noble, attitudinizing lovers as bloodlessly artificial.

Ironically, the Foreign Affairs Committee tried hard to dramatize these problems in a report issued in December 1982. "We do not believe that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office has paid (Grenada) sufficient attention," it said, complaining that briefings supplied by the FCO "did not reach the usual standards".

Like Gielgud and Scofield in the 1953 production (the only elements I can remember from the event), Michael Pennington and Jane Lapotaire's Belvidera has the harder task of carrying a great weight of verbal love declarations that remain inertly enigmatised in period. She no

more than the others preserves the love triangle have been firmly laid, and by the second half the preparation develops into true tragic passion so far as the two men are concerned. The success is overwhelmingly a matter of casting.

Like Gielgud and Scofield in the 1953 production (the only elements I can remember from the event), Michael Pennington and Jane Lapotaire's Belvidera has the harder task of carrying a great weight of verbal love declarations that remain inertly enigmatised in period. She no

more than the others preserves the love triangle have been firmly laid, and by the second half the preparation develops into true tragic passion so far as the two men are concerned. The success is overwhelmingly a matter of casting.

Like Gielgud and Scofield in the 1953 production (the only elements I can remember from the event), Michael Pennington and Jane Lapotaire's Belvidera has the harder task of carrying a great weight of verbal love declarations that remain inertly enigmatised in period. She no

more than the others preserves the love triangle have been firmly laid, and by the second half the preparation develops into true tragic passion so far as the two men are concerned. The success is overwhelmingly a matter of casting.

Like Gielgud and Scofield in the 1953 production (the only elements I can remember from the event), Michael Pennington and Jane Lapotaire's Belvidera has the harder task of carrying a great weight of verbal love declarations that remain inertly enigmatised in period. She no

more than the others preserves the love triangle have been firmly laid, and by the second half the preparation develops into true tragic passion so far as the two men are concerned. The success is overwhelmingly a matter of casting.

Like Gielgud and Scofield in the 1953 production (the only elements I can remember from the event), Michael Pennington and Jane Lapotaire's Belvidera has the harder task of carrying a great weight of verbal love declarations that remain inertly enigmatised in period. She no

more than the others preserves the love triangle have been firmly laid, and by the second half the preparation develops into true tragic passion so far as the two men are concerned. The success is overwhelmingly a matter of casting.

Like Gielgud and Scofield in the 1953 production (the only elements I can remember from the event), Michael Pennington and Jane Lapotaire's Belvidera has the harder task of carrying a great weight of verbal love declarations that remain inertly enigmatised in period. She no

more than the others preserves the love triangle have been firmly laid, and by the second half the preparation develops into true tragic passion so far as the two men are concerned. The success is overwhelmingly a matter of casting.

Like Gielgud and Scofield in the 1953 production (the only elements I can remember from the event), Michael Pennington and Jane Lapotaire's Belvidera has the harder task of carrying a great weight of verbal love declarations that remain inertly enigmatised in period. She no

The 'Custom Bed' - build it yourself and save £'s!

Here's our biggest ever topseller; already we've sold thousands. (That's one reason why we can bring the price so low).

What makes it such an outstanding success? Simply this: you save money by assembling it yourself. You don't need any special skills because we've already done all the difficult work. The quality pine comes to you precisely cut, and sanded with smooth rounded edges. All the jointing holes are pre-drilled. And all the fittings are supplied.

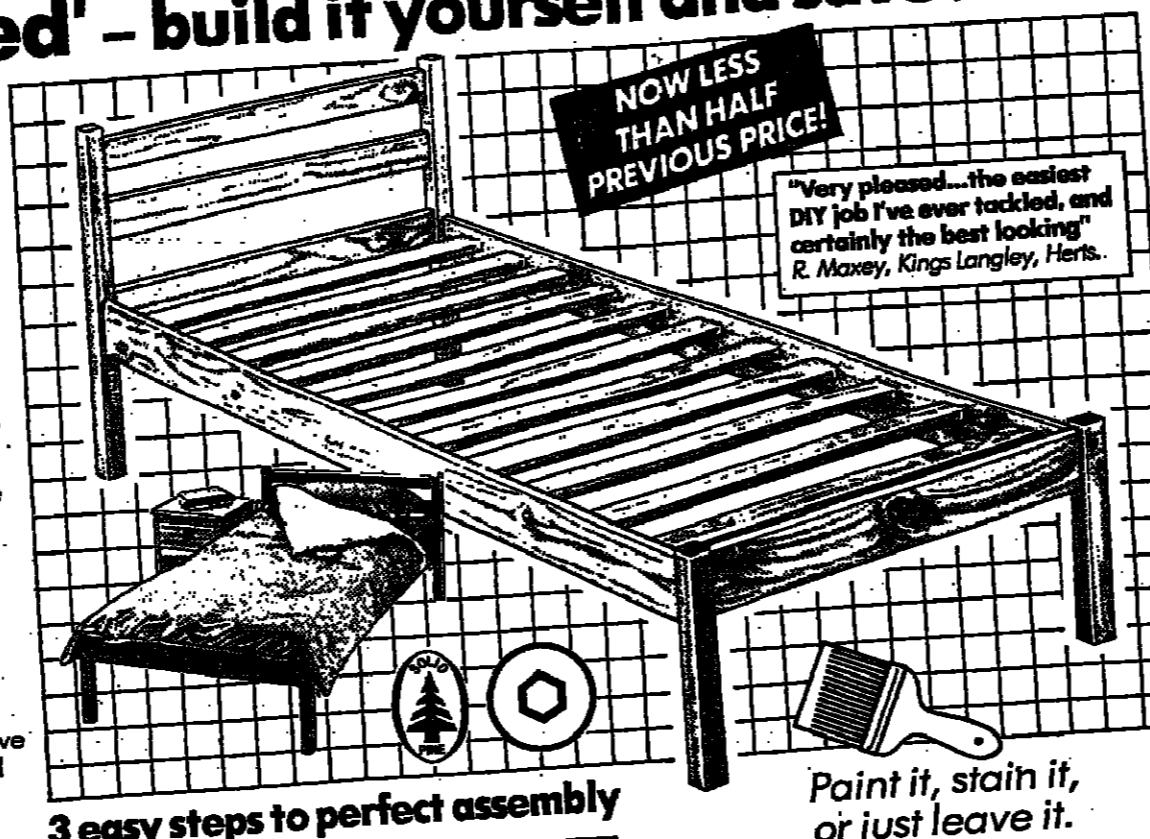
Despite the low price this is in no way a 'cheap' bed. It's a **real bed** of high-standard materials. The side rails, for instance, are over 4" deep...the support uprights are 1 1/2" thick. Like all our pine furniture, the Custom Bed is covered by a full 5 year guarantee.

Assembles in less than an hour

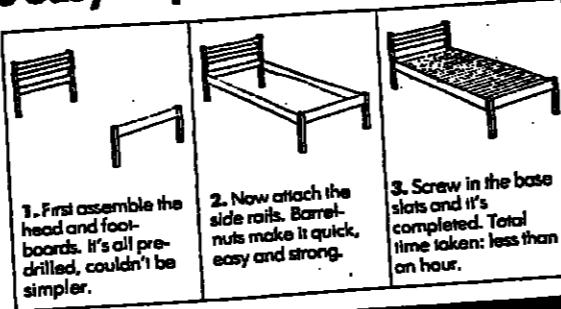
The Custom Bed uses the most advanced self-build techniques available: steel barrel nut assembly for rock-steady firmness. Brass bolt heads give an attractive neat finish. Even if you've never built a self-assembly project before, you'll find it easy to get immaculate results inside an hour. The only tool you need is a screwdriver!

At this amazing price, of course, it's not supplied with a mattress, so see "Homescene Mattresses" below for top value.

The Custom Bed		
Size	Previous Price	Offer Price
2' 6" wide	£69.95	£29.95
3' 0" wide	£85.95	£34.95
4' 6" wide	£109.95	£49.95
5' 0" wide	£129.95	£54.95



3 easy steps to perfect assembly



The Custom Bed uses beautiful wood, so if you like the natural look you can leave it as it is - or apply a clear polyurethane lacquer. Many of our customers tell us they stain the wood for rich interesting colours. Alternatively, you can paint the pine to match the decor of the room.

From only £29.95

Paint it, stain it, or just leave it.

Stitch 'n' Save Duvets

Convert your old eiderdown into a new duvet and save ££'s. Our Home Sew Duvet Kits have first quality downproof walled and channelled cambric cases. Insert your own filling, stitch up, and you have a luxurious duvet!

NORMAL LOW PRICES

Single 54" x 78" £11.95 Double 78" x 78" £25.95

Long Single 54" x 86" £12.95 King 90" x 90" £35.95

(Please add £1.20 p&p)

Duvet covers in reversible colours

Don't miss this special coverslip offer. Easy-care long-wearing 50% Cotton/50% Polyester. Stylish reversible plain colours - choose from: Brown/Cream - Dark/Light Green - Damask (Pink) - Royal/Sky - Dark/Light Green

PRICES SLASHED AGAIN!

Single 54" x 78" £16.95 £11.95

Long Single 54" x 86" £19.95 £14.95

Double 78" x 78" £24.95 £18.95

King 90" x 86" £27.95 £20.95

Matching pillows: £6.50 (pair). Please add £1.20 p&p if only coverslip/pillowcases ordered.

No p&p if ordered with duvet.

GOOSE DOWN FROM ONLY £49.95!

Luxury Duvet Seconds!

Delicious warmth from the moment you get into bed. At these prices everyone can enjoy Danish-made quilts filled with real Goose Down or Duck Down...BUT we have only a limited number of these duvet seconds.

With 100% cotton walled and channelled covers, these duvets are only slightly sub-standard and are equivalent to 13.5 Tog (Goose Down) and 12.5 Tog (Duck Down). Fabulous value for money but order soon while stocks last!

PRICES SLASHED AGAIN!

DUCK DOWN FROM ONLY £34.95!

THE EVERYTHING BOX...Ottoman...toy box...linen chest...drinks cabinet...log box...

It started life as a toy box. But when we realised it was being bought by people without children, we asked "What do you use it for?" And we got some surprising answers! "To hold all my work tools" ... "In the bathroom for dirty linen" ... "For my sports kit" ... "Handy for storing books" ... "Perfect for my record collection"...

The list goes on - and that's why we decided to rename it the Everything Box.

The idea answer to all storage problems, it keeps all your everyday bits and pieces neatly stored away out-of-sight. Tough, roomy and very hardwearing in solid, lacquered pine, your Everything Box comes to you ready for easy self-assembly. And it's attractive enough to serve as a handsome piece of furniture in its own right.

Easy to open - safe to close
There's no need to worry about safety when children are involved. The recessed gap under the box lid allows easy opening and prevents tiny fingers getting trapped. Damped hinges mean that the lid stays up when you want it to and ensure a safe, slow descent when you close the lid.



The Everything Box		
Size	Previous Price	Offer Price
28" x 15" x 11" approx.	£59.95	£29.95
34" x 18" x 19" approx.	£74.95	£39.95

From only £29.95

HALF PRICE SOLID PINE!

OUR DOUBLE GUARANTEE OF QUALITY AND PRICE

5 years minimum guarantee of craftsmanship and quality. All products in this advert (excl. foam products) are guaranteed for a minimum of 5 years against defects in materials and/or workmanship.

Our carefully filled duvets are guaranteed for a full 70 years.

We guarantee you the lowest price OR refund the difference. If you can find an identical product which genuinely offers the same quality or a lower price within 7 days of your purchase, we will refund the difference in full.

5 Year Guarantee

Bob Hobday
Robert Hobday
Managing Director

Look for the sign of solid pine

Today's best self-assembly design

See this sign to save space

Beautiful, top quality, solid pine furniture built by craftsmen and engineers to the highest standards. Homescene pine furniture is sturdy made to last a lifetime.

Homescene are the acknowledged experts in designs that make the most of limited space, like ingenious packages with more than one function.

SPECIAL SPRING CLEARANCE

Watch out for even bigger savings wherever you see the woodpecker!

Save money on this solid pine dining furniture...buy a set, and save even more!

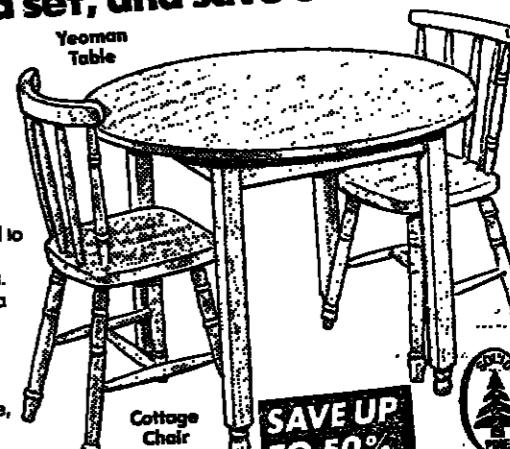
Bring a touch of natural beauty to your home with this lovely pine dining furniture in traditional old English designs.

Whether you're entertaining friends, or just planning a simple supper for the family, our classic Yeoman Table will set off your meal to perfection. It seats four people in comfort, and is as solid as it is elegant. Chunky, square section legs support a 3" diameter top, 1" thick and lacquered to a high-shine finish.

Our Cottage Chair is one design which has stood the test of time. In quality pine, with turned legs and rails, and contoured seat and comfortable high back.

While the Farmer's Chair brings back memories of the old country kitchens; with its handsome turned legs and rails, and authentically shaped and morticed back.

All pieces in the Yeoman Collection are ready-lacquered; the table is easy self-assembly, and the chairs come ready-assembled.



OR - BUY A COMPLETE SET AND SAVE AN EXTRA £16.95		
Previous Price	Offer Price	
Yeoman Round Table	£19.95	£59.95
Cottage Chair	£39.95	£22.90
Farmer's Chair	£44.95	£22.90

Yeoman Round Table + 4 Cottage Chairs + 4 Farmer's Chairs

Yeoman Round Table + 4 Farmer's Chairs

Yeoman Round Table + 4 Farmer's Chairs

SAVE UP TO 50%

£16.95

£14.95

£12.95

£10.95

£8.95

£6.95

£4.95

£2.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95

£0.95



SPORTING DIARY

22 good men and trows

It's spring again, the season when all men of spirit start perusing the ads in cricket magazines for a bat that will transform a Leitchworth provider into Denis Compton or the gauntlets that will transform a Barnet Iron Gloves into Tiger Smith. But it seems, the really vital piece of equipment this year is trousers. David Gower has apparently put all his experience into one particular brand. Mike Gatting can honestly say of Mike Gatting Flannels: "I can honestly say that they are the most comfortable cricket trousers I have ever worn," though admittedly not all of us are built quite like Mike Gatting.

The prize item, inevitably, is endorsed by Somerset's captain under the unforgettable slogan: "Attack With Both Battalions." Battalions. "I read that the trousers have 'unfinished bottoms,'" I don't know quite how to react to that.

• Sadly, Peter Smith cannot muster any old team-mates to play for his club, Marine, in today's FA Trophy semi-final with Northwich Victoria. Smith once played alongside Pele for Los Angeles Aztecs.

Long arm . . .

Referee Clive Thomas, renowned for writing soccer players' names in notebooks, has now written his reminiscences, which he calls, aptly, *By The Book*. In it he claims a personal best: he once booked Howard Smith of Rhyl in the car park 25 minutes after the match had ended, for criticizing Thomas's handling of the game. Smith was later fined £25.

Name of the game

I am starting a collection of footballers' nicknames - yes, truly, a subject many might consider dull. Such examples as "Robbo" and "Shitz" hardly excite the imagination. But I rather like the name given to Brian Talbot of Arsenal - "Three Prod". This is a reference to the number of touches he is alleged to require to bring a football under control. And I hear that Steve Archibald, that pale, Chatterton-esque Tottenham Hotspur forward, is known as "The White Rat".

Kicking for home

Introducing the footballing racehorse. Precocious, that splendidly promising sprinter, cracked a knee in the winter while messing about in his box. To prevent a repetition, his connexions came up with a brilliant idea: they gave him football. Precocious now whiles away the time developing his ball skills when not working towards the real goal - a top-class sprint prize or two.

Out of step

So far the Los Angeles Olympics are famous for one thing: money. So guess why only 48 dancers turned up in Hollywood to audition for 150 places in the opening ceremony on July 28. Correct: the pay, a mere 300 to 900 dollars, depending on prominence. The choreographer, Ron Field, is now auditioning again. I'm thinking of applying.

BARRY FANTONI



Rallying round

The organizers of the Safari Rally in Kenya, the toughest motoring event of the year, have asked villagers along the route to make it slightly less tough than usual. "Please don't throw as many stones at the cars as you have in previous years," is the message: "Perhaps you might like to cheer the drivers instead . . . But it is hard to cheer drivers who wipe out your livestock as they whiz past, so drivers in the rally, which starts on Thursday, should keep their heads well down."

• Edgbaston has finally committed women to go boldly into these sacred parts of the cricket ground where a woman has trod before. But nothing comes for free in Birmingham: the Ladies' Pavilion is now open to chaps.

Tour de farce

It's nice to know that one band of sportsmen have managed to have a more disastrous tour than England's cricketers. The Argentine soccer side San Lorenzo, who finished as first division runners-up, had such an awful time in Central America that they were stuck without even enough money to get home and had to scratch about for an unscheduled fixture to raise the cash. Their problems were caused by the tour promoter, who vanished with all the takings, leaving the players with a hotel bill, no money, and no idea where they were due to play next.

Simon Barnes

Put art in a new framework

Geraldine Norman calls for a change in the tax system on American lines to preserve our cultural heritage from foreign predators.

Britain's system for limiting the export of great works of art is set to go. The art market has driven prices to levels beyond the purchasing power of our museums and galleries on any but the rarest and most exceptional occasions. But the prices are tempting more and more owners to sell.

On May 9, the House of Lords will debate a motion tabled by Lord Fanshawe of Richmond, vice-chairman of the Conservative Party, which reflects the concern over the issue. He is to ask the Government what it is doing to preserve our cultural heritage, "having regard to the immense buying power of the Getty Museum". Lord Gowrie, Minister for the Arts, will be present, so the debate should reveal whether the Government is prepared to tackle the problem and, if so, how.

The Getty Museum in Malibu, California, which needs to spend £1.25m a week to retain its charitable tax status, takes an unfair share of the blame for the enormous prices now paid for works of art. Other American museums have huge resources, such as the Kimbell Museum in Fort Worth, and so do American collectors and a number of museums and private individuals around the world. Wall Street's recovery last year made Americans

feel much richer, while the fall of the pound against the dollar enhanced their purchasing power in Britain.

The solution, therefore, does not lie with frightening off the Getty Museum alone but with changing our protection system, or with deciding to give up the unequal struggle and let the art go.

The first line of our defences lies with the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art. It can advise the Arts Minister to withhold an export licence for a stated period, usually three months, to allow a British institution to try to raise money to match the export price. If the funds are available, no licence is granted and the owner must either sell to that institution or keep the work of art in this country.

This system was set up on the recommendation of the Waverley Committee in 1952 and has served us well. About 20 cases have been considered by the committee each year and most of the items it considered important have been kept in Britain. In 1983, when the

number jumped from 20 to 50, the five most expensive items reviewed left the country, funds not being available to keep them.

The second line of defence lies with the providers of funds, most importantly the National Heritage Memorial Fund, which now has around £1.5m. It has just declined to help Manchester to buy a £1.8m panel. It also refused the British Museum the £5m asking price for the Duke of Devonshire's drawings, Museum and gallery purchase grants, the Heritage Fund and private supporters can manage only two or three big buys a year.

Most of the art treasures we would like to keep in Britain come from the stately home collections where capital taxes become payable at least once in each generation. The Treasury allows a significant tax concession on art ceded to the nation - which does keep a certain number of treasures out of the export queue.

France, Italy and West Germany have varying export control systems

which all permit a ban on the export of a work, whether or not a local institution has the money to buy it. To deny a work of art free access to the world market slashes its value. Such a system effectively confiscates a proportion of the wealth of art owners, and the British, with their love of fair play, have avoided it.

The point has now been reached where there are really only two alternatives: confiscatory controls or making purchase money available.

The present government is not temperamentally suited to confiscatory controls. It is also against increasing government expenditure. It must therefore put Nigel Lawson's remarkable ingenuity back to work and devise a tax incentive to conjure the required funds out of the private sector.

American collectors who give works of art to museums may deduct their value from gross income before calculating income tax. This means they can choose to pay tax in the form of art donations.

For more than 20 years the British art establishment has been trying to persuade government to do the same, only to be told that the tax change implied was too "radical" or too great an encouragement to tax fiddlers. The present government is not frightened of radical tax changes. This one is desperately needed.

Roy Strong

Through a plate glass drably

One of the great minor arts which has practically been killed off in this country is that of window display. A glance at the Design Centre in the Haymarket will confirm how far we have sunk in this form of presentation.

In London at present only four shops, Harrods, Harvey Nichols, Liberty's and Selfridges, make any attempt at dressing their windows as microcosms of current style. Other stores like the Army & Navy have virtually banished display altogether, while Barkers has, for the past few years, been a monument to expensive vulgarity which provides every visitor with regular evidence of our decline in taste and design.

Concern with such a topic may seem trivial, but it is not. Any visitor to a metropolis knows the importance of the contents of shop windows. They, along with advertising in the form of posters, provide the most immediate impression of a country's international awareness of current style and fashion and, more importantly, its own contribution.

One of the great pleasures of being in New York is that stroll down Fifth Avenue, above all at Christmas time. The windows of the great department stores are dressed with a breathtaking sense of occasion reflecting the seasons, each tableau a work of art in its own right telling the potential purchaser of the movement of style by providing, like a fashion magazine, a heightened, even fantastic, vision of it.

In London, that ability has gone to the detriment both of our commerce and our international image. We had it once, strangely enough in that beleaguered, impoverished, design-reforming era, the 1950s. Janine Janet was the great exponent in Paris, but London's own genius in *Eric Lucking* whose dressing of Liberty's windows was so astounding that, as an art-struck schoolboy, I used to voyage just to stand and stare in wonder at them. And it was all done with bales of fabric and pins without ever wielding scissors. It was a tradition of brilliance kept going by his successor, Roy Gentry. During the same period Simpson's windows were dressed by Natasha Kroll and they too were points of reference on British style. If I could point to an accessible reference as to how far we

have travelled from this it would be to the Christmas lights in Regent Street which year by year descend ever deeper into a mire of tasteless kitsch, far better to do away with them.

Ironically, it was the sixties that witnessed the decline of this art. Affluence eroded inventiveness. Perhaps too there was a reaction against the great set pieces in the same way that trade moved from the large stores to the small boutiques in Chelsea and in the Carnaby Street area. In addition there was little public recognition of the huge role that the exponents of this art had played in lifting London as a place of style and fashion.

To me it is a sad loss. It has not been replaced either by the Italian approach to window dressing which is based on exquisite sensitivity aligned to supreme calculation. Everything looks thrown into the window of an Italian shop but in a manner which registers all that its contents have to offer in terms of quality and style. A lesson as to how good they are at it is provided by Jermyn and Bond Streets where the Italians make use of this design principle to the detriment of our own shops where the goods are either badly displayed or literally just thrown in.

The English visual sense has never recovered since the Reformation removed images from the eyes and placed them, in the form of words, in the mind. Almost anywhere on the continent there is an instinctive eye for the placing of merchandise, a sense of *joie de vivre* in cascades of fruit, fish or meat.

Even the humblest market stall seems to compose itself into a still life whereas here such ingredients in the main seem dumped. The fish is not arranged on the slab in radiating patterns. The meat and game does not look fit to be painted by Oudry. Even the parsley now is plastic.

This is a sad saga but surely not beyond redemption. Selfridges for one has made the voyage back from the depths. Sainsbury's, for example, could apply its energies to the presentation of food. The role of the display manager should be lifted. Ephemerical it may be but window dressing embodies the anion of pleasure-giving to the onlooker with sharp commercial good sense.

Anthony Parsons

A faint far glitter of minor gems

I mourn the passing of *The Jewel in the Crown*, for many weeks anticipation of the next episode sustained my wife and myself from one Tuesday to the next. But *Jewel in the Crown* is only the most recent of a flood of books, fictional and non-fictional, plays, films and television programmes about the British Raj in India, a flood which reflects a natural public interest in the strange historical phenomenon of a small island influencing the destiny of the teeming sub-continent of Asia for two centuries.

Britain's legacy to the sub-continent is complex and multi-faceted. But many features of it are clearly identifiable, viz the widespread use of the English language, some domestic and public architecture, basic communications infrastructure, the style and tradition of the armed forces and police, the parliamentary system of government in India, to name a few of the more obvious manifestations of the impact of one culture on another, the intermingling of two civilizations.

Watching *Jewel in the Crown*, seeing the films *Gandhi* and *Heat and Dust* and reading books by, for example, Paul Scott and John Masters, has set me thinking about a more shadowy and less tangible British legacy to another part of the world. In the Middle East, Britain, in the interests originally of imperial communications, to India and later of securing oil supplies, exercised indirect rule or at least nominal influence over many countries, in some cases for almost as long a period.

I served many years in this area, from the Sudan and Egypt in the west to Iran in the east. I participated in the process, sometimes painful, sometimes turbulent, sometimes graceful and timely, of transforming Britain's position of sub-imperial power to one of normal relations with the states of the region; a process which effectively began with the end of the Second World War and concluded with the termination of the British protective and other special treaties with the Gulf states at the end of 1971.

Now I ask myself - what have we given the dozen or so states of the Middle East which felt the weight of British influence? What features of "Britishness" have become assimilated in their cultures, their administrations, their intellectual and political processes, their day-to-day lives?

It would be hard to identify any physical monuments of the kind so widely distributed by the Roman Empire throughout this region. The great foreign educational establishments which have helped to transmit Western political and social ideas to the people of the Middle East since the mid-nineteenth century, with a few notable exceptions, were of French or American, not British, origin.

There is little of the British parliamentary system in the area, except in Israel. Some Arabs would go so far as to say that Britain's principal legacy to them is the problem of Palestine, that abiding source of war, misery and unrest. Others would concede that, had it not been for British power and

protection in the century which ended with the close of the First World War, their states would not now exist, surely an important heritage.

Many would testify to the dedicated work of and long enduring friendships with individual Englishmen and to an admiration and respect for our institutions and way of life, as opposed to dislike of "the British", for so long the symbols of imperialism, interference and the hidden hand. Outsiders would still be able to detect residual traces of British influence in certain manifestations of public, rather than political life in many of the states of the Middle East, in civil administration, in the armed forces, even in the attitudes of mind of those who were brought into closest contact with us. Paradoxically these and other traces are faintest in the country where the British presence was most obtrusive and most protracted - in Egypt, and strongest in countries where our presence was either brief in time or small in numbers, or both.

There is no overall pattern and the outlines of the landscape are elusive. Maybe this is so to a greater or lesser extent wherever the British have set foot. The Empire was no intellectual construct translated into reality. It just grew, often with the flag following trade. Governmental policies varied from election to election and the administrators on the spot had to do the best they could. Unlike the French we had no feeling of a mission to civilize, no compulsion to transform those whom we ruled and influenced into foreign versions of ourselves.

More than 30 years ago, an irreverent young Englishman in Iraq, unimpressed by the "expatriate club" life of the British community, remarked that T. S. Eliot's thousand lost golf balls would be the symbols of what was left when the British moved out, our equivalent of the Roman triumphal arch or the Islamic minaret.

Not altogether, fair perhaps. Maybe Lord Cromer, the great pro-consult, in his monumental *Modern Egypt* published in 1908, should have the last word. It is probable that few Englishmen ever ask themselves seriously the question of Quo Vadis in connection with either India or Egypt. After all, the practical instinct of our race leads us to deal with whatever affairs we have in hand for the moment, and to discard any attempt to peer too curiously into the remote future. That instinct seems to me to be curiously wise.

© Times Newspaper Limited 1984

How I got it wrong on Iran

Sir Anthony Parsons, until recently foreign policy adviser to the Prime Minister, was ambassador to Iran from 1974-79. In *The Times* next week he tells his personal story of the fall of the Shah - and how the West regime signed the death warrant of Ayatollah Khomeini.

There's no tune to beat an old tune

Stingers, nor Chopin for his Fantasy Impromptu with the name *I'm Always Chasing Rainbows*, Borodin, too, probably still consider an old piece of music, is drowsy and lacks the energy to move there; on this, at least as much as on support for the festival itself, hinges the success of regeneration.

To achieve all this, three million tons of silt, sand, rubble and rubbish have been shifted. Steel-lined concrete oil tanks have been cut up to avoid explosion. A quarter of a mile of coastline has been planted and a river created complete with oxbow lake. A network of invisible pipes draw off methane, a gas harmful to people and plants alike, from the fermenting rubbish to a riverside station, where the development corporation hopes to sell it for energy. Like much else, solutions to problems sites have been given a distinctive new twist by the Liverpools.

Yet behind the technical acumen, nothing new. In most cases, all that's required is some ruthless editing and a sort of logical extension of the "programme music" theory: give it a label the folks can understand. So, for a while at least, *Bolero* will be subtitled "the music for Torvill and Dean", in the same way that Mozart's Piano Concerto No 21 was briefly the theme for the film *Evita Madigan*. Those titles are no more misleading than, say, the Moonlight Sonata, which was Heinrich Reiss's idea of a nifty name and not Beethoven's.

More questionable are the decisions to improve on the original by the addition of a thumping bass-line or a crass lyric. Tchaikovsky wouldn't have had much time for *Nut Racker* by E. Bumble and the

some future biographer will discover that, under an assumed name, the old buffer had a regular season ticket to the Ziegfeld Follies.

As for Jolson, he carried on singing the song for the rest of his life, and more than made up for the lost money. However, the next time he went near that highbrow stuff, he made sure the guy was already dead and, as an added precaution, picked somebody to one had ever heard of Ivanovici, a nineteenth century composer who posthumously provided Jolson and Saul Chaplin with *The Anniversary Song*.

Ravel died in 1937, so he won't be able to capitalize on his current chart success. Otherwise, he might well be working on *Let's Bolero Again* for the follow-up single. As it is, the only clue to his views on the Top 40 is provided by a reported conversation with George Gershwin in 1928. The young American asked if he might study with Ravel, whereupon Ravel inquired rather sarcastically about Gershwin's annual earnings. On hearing the answer (more than \$100,000), Ravel replied: "It is I who should be studying with you."

Mark Steyn



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WCIX 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

A KIND OF POLLING

Tomorrow is election day in Iran. That sounds incongruous, given what one knows of the present political system in Iran, but then the world is full of incongruities. Only the other day, after all, it was election day in the Soviet Union.

The leaders of both countries would find the comparison highly offensive. The Soviet Union likes to present itself as democratic, progressive, enlightened, while it has come round to recognizing Ayatollah Khomeini's regime (since he arrested and tortured Iranian communist leaders) as reactionary, benighted and despotic. The Ayatollah, for his part believes that he is enforcing the law of God upon earth, whereas he sees the Soviet Union as an atheist and predatory power, no better (sic) than the United States or Britain. He is a leading tenant of that theory of the moral equivalence of the superpowers which Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick rightly deplores.

Clear elections in Iran do not mean what they mean here. The Ayatollah, indeed, would be the first to say so. In Iran, as Mr Musavi Ardabili, president of the Supreme Court, has explained, "there is Islamic freedom but not American democracy". Iranians are not being offered a chance to vote against the Government. They do not have a choice between clearly labelled parties, each with its own manifesto and list of candidates. Even the very small and lame opposition group which has been tolerated (just) in the outgoing parliament, led by former prime minister Mehdi Bazargan, is not running for relection, because it has been given no chance to express its views in the press.

Any serious opposition is, of course, totally banned. If there-

fore the elections were to give any guidance at all about the regime's popularity it could only be through the turn-out, and even this will be very hard for outsiders to verify. Only the regime will be in a position to count the blank votes which Mr Shahpur Bakhtiar, the Shah's last prime minister, has asked his supporters to register. And only the regime will really know how many voters stayed away from the polls altogether. Even then it will not know how many of them were respecting the advice given by the left-wing People's Mujahedin, and how many abstained out of simple apathy.

Yet the preparations for the elections have revealed that Iran is not yet quite a one-party state on the Soviet model. Probably it would be if Ayatollah Beheshti, the organizer of the Islamic Republican Party, had not been killed along with most of its leadership in the explosion of June 28, 1981. As it is, the IRP has withered on the vine and the political cadres of the regime, although all Shiite clerics who accept the supremacy of Ayatollah Khomeini, remain rather loosely organized. The regime lacks structure, and the faction-fighting within it is only just below the surface. Efforts to form a nationwide slate of candidates broke down. There are rival candidates in most constituencies, though they are forbidden officially to support each other. The Iranian people could be said to have the choice which Marx claimed was typical of bourgeois democracy: the right to choose its oppressors every five years.

Three factions have been discerned among the ruling clergy by those relatively well placed to observe them. There are the "primitives" of the Hojatollah, formerly the Anti-Bahai Organization, with its

main base at Mashhad in eastern Iran. There are the "fighting clergy" (*ulama mubarizin*) based in Tehran and associated with Ayatollah Mahdavi-Kani, a clever religious lawyer who heads the Council of Guardians set up to vet legislation for conformity with Islamic law. And there are the "high ayatollahs" of Qom, strongly entrenched in the same Council of Guardians and conservative in the sense of being firm believers in private property. The older of these are generally considered to outrank Ayatollah Khomeini in religious learning, as opposed to political charisma, but they also include Ayatollah Montazeri, one of his best pupils and his apparently chosen but not yet formally ratified successor.

In the younger generation the two most prominent leaders are the president, Khamenei, and the speaker of the outgoing parliament, Hashemi-Rafsanjani: the former allegedly more "radical" on economic issues and less favourable to any compromise with the West than the latter, but both regarded as "typical Tehrani mullahs who will change with the wind".

The wind blows, for the moment, in favour of continuing the war with Iraq in spite of its enormous cost. Ayatollah Khomeini has no time for UN missions which fail to condemn Iraq by name: "It would have been much better if they had not taken this step, so that we ourselves, without having to resort to such crimes (sic), would, God willing, remove Saddam (President Saddam Hussein of Iraq) and the Baath Party with a crushing blow and then liberate the Iraqi nation from the yoke imposed on it by this corrupt man." The yoke of war is still imposed on Iraqi and Iranian nation alike.

AN ILL-ADVISED LOGIC

In its discussion of the law on incest, the Criminal Law Revision Committee (CLRC) starts from the position that incestuous relationships are "wholly undesirable for the individual and for our society and potentially harmful with possible long-term psychological consequences for those involved and their families." These are the words of the Policy Advisory Committee, set up by Mr Roy Jenkins when he was Home Secretary to advise the CLRC which now adopts them as its "own approach" in discussing the subject in its report this week on Sexual Offences. The CLRC also acknowledges that the available evidence "appears to establish that where the parties to an incestuous relationship are related in the first degree (parent-child, brother-sister) there is a high risk that any children born to them will suffer from a serious defect."

Yet despite this evidence, the CLRC "broadly shares" the view of the Policy Advisory Committee that the genetic risk "is not very important to a consideration of the justification for an offence of incest." This judgement is founded on the curious logic that since society does not intervene in cases where hereditary disease is a risk to the offspring of a sexual relationship, it should not do so in the matter of incest simply because the offspring may suffer disability. That, however, is not the kind of logic which will appeal to the common sense of most people, and neither will the CLRC's recommendation that brother-sister incest should cease to be an offence under the criminal law over the age of 21.

The CLRC's reasoning starts from the proposition that the primary aim of the law is the

protection of the young and the vulnerable from sexual exploitation within the family, the often appalling consequences of which hardly need to be spelled out. Not the least of them is that the offence is committed by those from whom the child has the right to expect support. The CLRC rightly accepts that the criminal law is particularly useful in strengthening the hand of social agencies trying to end such relationships.

The report therefore concludes that parent-child incest should continue to be an offence at all ages. Its majority, though with a minority dissenting, rejects the opinion of the Policy Advisory Committee that this kind of incest should only be an offence if a daughter (or son) were under the age of 21, apparently on the grounds that, above that age, people do not require the intervention of the criminal law in such cases. That is a proposal that would not bear close examination, and the CLRC will be widely supported in rejecting it.

Unfortunately, however, the CLRC majority has accepted the opinion that incest between brother and sister should not be an offence over the age of 21, despite the significant fact that a substantial majority of commentators on a working paper it produced thought that it should be. It is a case in which the Home Secretary should pay more heed to this majority, which almost certainly reflects the majority view in the country, than to the sophisticated argument for change.

The change is recommended by the CLRC not only because the protection of the law is held to be unnecessary for the people over 21 (and the genetic risks discardable though real) but

MR BRITAN'S OWN GOLD

The Home Secretary's Olympic record on behalf of Miss Zola Budd - breaching the red tape in ten days flat - is one of those publicity-conditioned gestures that do not quite come off. Catcalls mingle with the cheers. Mr Denis Howell, who as a former minister of everything from sport to water knows a thing or two, accuses the Home Secretary of prostituting his department's procedures in the service of sportswiz and a newspaper stunt. The *Daily Mail* gives Mr Howell two pages of its fruitiest invective charging him and the entire Labour Party with meanness, envy and malevolence, incapable of spotting glad tidings of great joy even when dished up to them on the front page of a newspaper. Some of the young women who have been training hard for a place in the British team for Los Angeles have only a labourer-in-the-vineyard's welcome for the late arrival. The Home Office has expressed her application, but the International Olympic Committee has yet to waive its

three-year rule on change of nationality. Onlookers reflect that, glorious as British golds may be, they lose gleam to the extent that they are won by nifty manipulation of regulations made under the Nationality Act.

The queue is an English institution high in the hierarchy of social values. Queue-jumping is frowned upon accordingly. What persuaded the Home Secretary to engineer Miss Budd's jump which has left 70,000 people standing in varying states of impatience and anxiety for the usual waiting period of from six months to two years?

Was the case treated as a compassionate case, denial of the opportunity to compete in the Olympics being judged unconscionable? Is it that the Olympic games are affairs of state so that Cabinet ministers must go out of their way to facilitate participation, or, last time, to obstruct it? Was the Home Secretary moved by the danger to Miss

Budd of being lured into the athletic forcing-house of some American campus, a fate (according to the *Daily Mail*) worse than being placed in the care and protection of the *Daily Mail*?

Was he batting for Britain in the Oman tradition, bagging golds as others bag construction contracts? Or was he batting for Britain, conscious that Fleet Street would have him for breakfast if the dead hand of bureaucracy had been allowed to blight the hopes of the prodigies from Bloemfontein? Mr David Waddington, the junior Home Office minister who fielded a short adjournment debate this week, treated the answer as too obvious to need stating.

As for the object of his solicitude, it is very much to be hoped that her barefoot brilliance survives the culture shock; and that her youth finds satisfaction in the world of glamour, promotion and achievement in which she is now competing and being used.

How ships survive in time of war

From Professor Sir Ronald Mason, FRS

Sir. A number of you correspondents have commented upon transatlantic reinforcement campaigns and their dependence upon, inter alia, the survivability of surface ships in a high-intensity maritime conflict. There are several observations to make which are more factual than anecdotal:

1. Only independent sailings can provide reinforcements for the central front land battle even if the conventional phase is imagined to extend over three or four weeks - a relatively infrequent assumption within the Alliance. There is clear evidence that such a shipping campaign can be sustained with relatively few losses, the survivability of high-value assets being enhanced with cost-effective hard and soft-kill point defence weapons systems. This analysis is important to Alliance defence and deterrence postures.

2. Convoys can only deliver significant reinforcements to Europe after a month or more of the start of conventionally fought hostilities. Tracking and targeting of more concentrated, less mobile ships (convoys) is inevitably more assured, given present and future overhead and other surveillance systems. Comprehensive area defence against a regimental attack of sea and air-launched stand-off missiles is extremely difficult. There are few serious observers who would claim that the US Agila system is "leak-proof", even at its very high cost.

For the future, developments in reducing missile signatures and improving their guidance and homing capabilities seem certain to ensure that the balance of advantage will lie with penetrating and more accurate missiles.

That, indeed, must be one of the Alliance's responses to the build-up of the Soviet Navy: we have major force multipliers in our surveillance and missile capabilities which represent more cost-effective investments for deterrence compared with that advocated by interested parties, of adding more surface warships for ill-defined requirements.

Yours faithfully,

RONALD MASON.

The British Atlantic Committee.

30a St James's Square, SW1.

April 6.

Hard economics of pits

From Mr John Stokes, MP for Halesowen and Stourbridge (Conservative)

Sir. I fear that many admirers of the Archbishop of York will be dismayed at the content of his letter to the *Durham Miners* (report, April 12) in which he declares himself in favour of keeping open uneconomic pits. The Archbishop has a reputation of being a clever man, but it would seem that his heart has overruled his head in this matter - perhaps because of his contact with miners when he was Bishop of Durham.

Most people want to see miners continue in employment, but surely there is no future for them or for the nation if they mine coal which is too expensive for any customers to want to buy. I do not believe that any miners have yet been made redundant. They will be offered transfer to other pits and if they do choose to leave the industry their compensation is generous.

The Archbishop's message does not seem good economics, nor do I see the specifically Christian content I am also sorry to see that the Archbishop would not comment on the violence and intimidation on some picket lines.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN STOKES.
House of Commons.
April 12.

Putting oneself forward

From Dr Arthur Bowen

Sir, Sir Francis Avery Jones (April 9) pleads that conference name badges should, in the interest of clear visibility and auld lang syne, be worn in the right tape.

But even then it is fairly obvious that anyone who has to squat down at the badge before "greeting former friends" has either very poor memory recall or failing eyesight or both (a common finding at conferences).

The answer, of course, is to pin the name badge on the back of the coat, high up. This permits discreet scrutiny, allowing one either to go away and greet somebody else: or else simply to walk round to the front and warmly welcome such an old and now identifiable friend.

Yours sincerely,
ARTHUR BOWEN,
Old Rectory House,
Chapter House Street,
York.
April 9.

The munificence of Odo

From Professor Colonel G. I. A. Draper

Sir, The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle may well have been silent about the proposed "export" of the Bayeux Tapestry by that episcopal monster, Odo, Bishop of Bayeux and sometime Earl of Kent (your editorial, April 7), but it was assuredly not reticent about the massive spoliation of Saxon ecclesiastical treasures ordered by his half-brother, William the Conqueror, in the spring of 1070.

The Chronicle relates laconically: "And in the following spring the King had all the monasteries that were in England plundered". Part of that plunder found its way to Normandy.

In the summer of that same year, 1070, a Council of Norman bishops under the Papal Legate sat in

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Drive to reform examination levels

From the Headmaster of Highbury Grove School

Sir. When there has been heavy

investment in any enterprise there is an understandable reluctance on the part of the investor to abandon his project, especially when it has almost reached fruition. Much time, energy, expertise and goodwill has been invested in considering proposals for a new system of examination at 16-plus, and your leading article of April 7, "Classroom realism", will be regarded as a distinctly unfriendly act by a considerable number of teachers and

able investment is not entirely wasted.

Yours faithfully,
LAWRENCE NORCROSS.
Headmaster.
Highbury Grove School,
Highbury New Park, N5.

From Mr B. W. Page

Sir. I should like to comment on only two points in your lead article of April 7 opposing the amalgamation of the CSE and O-level examinations.

Firstly, in the final paragraph you talk of the "non-academic pupil (who) should leave school with a useful measure of his skills" (i.e., CSE) and the "high-academic" pupil who needs O level. This is a naive over-simplification. Between these two extremes there is an infinite gradation of capabilities and we need a coordinated examination system that can do justice to them.

In modern languages, we in the graded objectives movement have shown over several years now that such flexibility is practically possible and our experience has been reflected in the *Recommended Statement on National Criteria* for a new examination.

Secondly, you say that it would be harmful "to create a single system simply to please the egalitarians". In modern languages again the amalgamation proposals were overwhelmingly supported by the teachers, the language associations and every other body which gave its comments to the working party. There was disagreement over some details, but there was none over the main objective of creating a single examination system.

So far as can be ascertained, virtually everybody professionally connected with secondary education wants this change - and they are far from being egalitarians.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN PAGE, Chairman,
National Coordinating Committee for Graded Objectives in Modern Language Learning.
The University of Leeds,
Leeds, West Yorkshire.

share them with us: decorative paintings of the type I have mentioned, intended for specific settings (albeit the work of mere foreigners) are rather less common.

Mr Hudson's letter might make more sense if its appeal were less chauvinistic, as it is, his "British culture for the British" attitude does little except muddy the waters of simple nationalism.

Why must our efforts be concentrated on saving the works of Constable and Stubbs (consequently depriving other nations of enjoying their art) rather than the works of British painters? It is, after all, quite likely that the work of an artist such as Pompeu Fabra has more place in Hispania than in Britain.

He ought to accept that it is possible for Italian, Dutch and French works of art to be as much part of British culture as is the work of Constable (impossible without Rubens anyway).

In deciding what can and what cannot be spared we need a rather more satisfactory criterion than the rule of thumb he proposes.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID PATON,
86 Norborough Road North,
Northampton.

European Governments . . . involving a reduction by between 25 per cent and 30 per cent of both capital and running costs.

To quote again, from the *CERN Courier* (vol. 10, June 1970, p. 178), "The UK delegation stated that the refusal to join the project in spite of the previous conditions no longer stands for the alternative proposals."

There was a general election on June 19, 1970, and Mrs Margaret Thatcher, as Secretary of State for Education and Science in Mr Heath's Government, successfully negotiated the UK's participation in the project.

In a nutshell: Shirley Williams was doing the scientists into thinking again. Margaret Thatcher took us into Somerville.

Yours faithfully,
N. KURTI,
University of Oxford,
Department of Engineering Science,
 Parks Road, Oxford.

which he himself is being led by his need to restructure his own complex beginnings.

To your headline writer did, to "the mother who spent her lifetime punishing him for the fact that his father steadfastly refused to marry her" an injustice to a young unmarried woman who brought up her son in difficult circumstances and with very little support. When she considered the pros and cons of marriage with H. G. Wells, it was in their son's interest.

Her own interest was focused elsewhere even before she and H. G. Wells parted company, and in the years before her marriage to Henry Andrews her emotional life was not, as Mr West seems to believe, defined by her continuing contact with Wells.

Ignorance of many of the facts of Dame Rebecca's life leaves Mr West with a clear field for his own mythology. And the dead, of course, cannot defend themselves.

Yours faithfully,

VICTORIA GLENDINNING,
32 North Villas, NW1.

his fortune on the foundation of the new cathedral at Bayeux, consecrated in 1077.

There is evidence that Odo commissioned the tapestry in England, from designer(s) and embroiderers, probably ladies of Kent, as part of his munificence for the new cathedral in Bayeux. Odo's prominent role in the invasion is vividly depicted in the tapestry and it is not thought likely that that he had decreed that they may not sell it nor anyone buy it. (Bodleian Junius Collection, [21].)

Many of the beautiful Saxon works of art and craftsmanship so stolen found their way to Normandy.

The Bayeux Tapestry, on the other hand, found its way to Bayeux in more respectable circumstances. At some time during the period of his great power and accumulation of wealth in England, from 1068 to 1083, Odo bestowed a large part of

Resisting the call for written rules

From Sir John

12, 13
Travel: Linda Christmas visits the Wilderness of Tasmania; John Young goes golfing in Spain; and Travel News

14, 15
Values: Beryl Downing looks at children's shoes; Eating Out: Theme pubs; Drink: Spring sparklers; and In The Garden

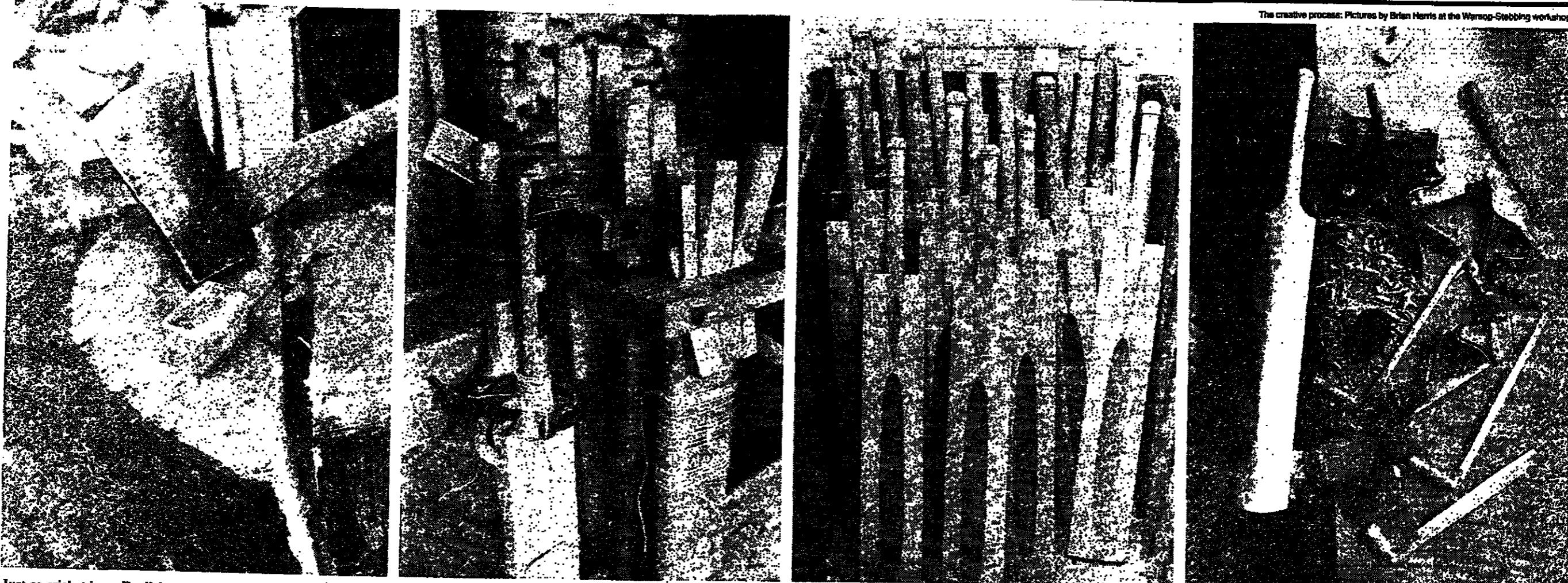
THE TIMES

Saturday

14 APRIL-20 APRIL 1984 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

16, 17
Review: Paperbacks of the month; Preview: Critics' choice of Films, Concerts, Dance, Opera, Theatre, Rock & Jazz

19, 20
Family Life: The Vikings brought to life; Bridge; Chess; Concise crossword; Country Diary; Out & About; and The Week Ahead



Just as cricket is an English game, a cricket bat must be made out of English willow. Nothing else will do - not even willow grown from English stock on foreign soil. Willow is a particularly tough and supple kind of wood and it is these qualities that give it the special resilience that enables it to withstand the regular impact of a hard leather ball weighing 4½ oz and travelling at 90 mph.

It takes time, care and skill to produce a good bat. The willow

tree is grown for about 15 years, until its trunk is a minimum of 52in in circumference and 20ft tall. Then it is felled and cut into four "rounds", each of which is split by wooden wedges to yield eight lengths of wood weighing about 6lb each.

These are waxed at the ends to force out the moisture and left to dry out in an unheated, open-ended shed for six to eight weeks, by which time the weight is roughly halved. Each piece of wood is then

sawn into the approximate shape of a bat and compressed in a 4-ton press, which compacts it and shows up any weaknesses.

Craftsmen then sort the wood, grade it for quality and work it by hand with drawing-knife, spokeshave and plane into the finished article. The handle, which is now usually made of laminated cane imported from the Far East, plastic-coated cane or even carbon-fibre, is fitted and glued into the blade of the bat by hand.

A top-quality bat will retail at anything up to £70; cheaper versions come at about £20. One covered by a polyurethane skin or linen skin heat-moulded to the blade will not be made of the best willow and so may be cheaper. Do not be deceived by "grain" marks on polyurethane covers. They are fake. And don't be talked into anything by the salesman. Always pick up a bat to get the "feel" of it yourself and ask for a ball to test the bounce.

The seasoning of good willow

To reach Walter Warsop's factory before the Second World War you had to drive along the narrow, leafy lanes of Essex, find a gate in the sprawling rhododendron bushes and go round the back of a tall red-brick Victorian house in Little Baddow.

There, beside a level patch of grass that might once have been a tennis court, was a long low shed packed with chunks of willow, bundles of cane, spokeshaves, planes, chisels and woodshavings. A cracked and filthy gas ring warmed a pot of smelly glue from which obtruded a stick which might once have been a paintbrush.

Along the wall, a stack of cricket bats of all sizes stood inviting the touch and an amber luminosity spread from the yellowing windows. It was magic.

I was taken there, as were hundreds like me, to be bought my first cricket bat, and I made mention of it in a book. It evoked such potent memories in one Harry Crabtree (as rustic a name as that of any man who ever held a bat) that he wrote to me.

Crabtree played for Essex, and later became the supremo of all the cricket coaches at Lord's, director of physical education for Essex, and president of the Eastern Counties Rugby Union. He wrote of old Walter Warsop, the batmaker: "If ever I was browned off I used to slip up to Little Baddow and sit and talk to Walter as he worked. I think he must have broken every factory safety measure. He'd light his pipe with a shaving from the floor lit from the gas heating the glue.

"He used to make bats specially balanced for me. He'd make it heavy at the bottom and spokespersons the bulge higher up the bat. I used to love square-cutting and hitting, and the lighter balance suited me.

"He achieved a remarkable record. He planted a willow set, grew it to maturity, cut it down himself, made a bat and scored a century with it. He did that twice in his lifetime."

Ah, you might say, but that was then. You don't get craftsmen like that these days: everything is done by machines. And you'd be wrong. Every year more than a quarter of a million cricket bats are made in England, and although machines take out some of the harder graft, the shaping, finishing and delicate balancing is still done by hand.

Walter Warsop died in his seventies, still playing cricket and making bats. His grandson Max now makes them in a similar hut at an old gravel pit in Danbury, not two miles away from his grandfather's home. He works with Harry Stebbing, a bat-shaper who once worked for Walter, and the Warsop-Stebbing name is well known and respected as one of the smaller firms operating today.

They make all sorts of other wooden clubs - softball bats, stoolball bats (which look uncomfortably like policemen's truncheons), hockey sticks, and they'd make baseball bats as well if their lathe was not half an inch too short and Harry could be bothered to change it.

In a sport alive with legend, the batmakers of England have been largely unsung over the

centuries. Although a form of cricket has probably been played in this country from the Middle Ages - there are references to it from 1300 onwards - what is believed to be the earliest surviving bat, now in the pavilion at the Oval in London, is inscribed "J.C. 1729". J.C. was one John Chitty.

John Small, born in 1717, is one of the game's immortals. After his death a painted sign was hung from his shop, declaring:

*Here lies John Small
Makes Bat and Ball
Pitch a wicket, Play at Cricket
With any man in England.*

And indeed he did. It is recorded that John Small was not "clean-bowled" for several years, and once held All England bowlers at bay for three days. This was at Hambledon in Hampshire, widely but incorrectly known as the birthplace of cricket.

Originally, when bowling was truly *bowling* - in other words, underhand along the ground - cricket bats were curved and club-like, a cross between a hockey stick and a stone-age club. By the mid-eighteenth century, however, round-arm bowling and the "length" ball which bounced had come into the game. By the 1770s, when the wicket had evolved from two stumps into three, a gentleman called White was marketing a straight bat in the Regate area of Surrey.

The first Laws of Cricket, devised in 1744, did not regulate the size of a bat, but after an incident, also at Regate, when a batsman took guard with a bat wider than the wicket, completely obscuring sight of the stumps, the width of the bat was restricted to 4½ in. There it has remained to this day.

In 1776, William Pett of Sevenoaks sold 11 bats at two shillings and sixpence each to the Duke of Dorset; he must have made an impression for two years later the "the best sort of cricket bats" from William Pett had nearly doubled in price to four shillings or four and sixpence each. It is a tribute to Victorian economic management that 100 years later, in 1880, reasonably good bats sold at only seven shillings and sixpence, while the "very best cane-handled" bat cost a guinea. Today the top whack for a bat is about £70.

By the end of the nineteenth century the firms which are now household names throughout the cricket world had begun to establish themselves. Fred Lillywhite, who put up the idea and the money for the first overseas tour by an England team - to Canada and the United States in 1859 - had set up his manufacturing base at the Oval with John Wisden, originator of the famous almanac. The firm, now called Lillywhite, Frowd, still make bats, but of the name Wisden only the cricketers' bible remains.

In 1883 William Gunn, probably the first professional to play for England at both cricket and Association football (the last was Arthur Milton of Arsenal and Gloucestershire), teamed up with T. J. Moore to form Gunn and Moore in Nottingham; the firm is still there, run by Reg Simpson, a stylish Test batsman of the 1950s.



The noble art: A cricket match in 1777 at Broadhalfpenny Down, Hampshire - home of the famous Hambledon Club

Ten years earlier, L. J. Nicolls, a carpenter and handyman in Robertsbridge, East Sussex, had found a few willow trees growing on his plot of land, and began to make cricket bats. He made them so well for 50 years that W. G. Grace not only used them but took a load to Australia to sell.

Nicolls' firm became Gray-Nicolls during the Second World War when it worked together with Gray's of Cambridge, another famous sports-goods company. It was taken over completely by Gray's about 10 years ago. It still has a telegram which reads "Send four bats to Lord's immediately. Grace" - a typically peremptory command from the autocratic doctor. It also still has on display at its Robertsbridge headquarters a photograph of W.G. at Hastings wielding the Nicolls bat with which he scored more than 2,000 runs in 1894.

In a good year Gray-Nicolls now makes more than 50,000 bats a year, and employs more than 30 craftsmen. But it has been through sticky patches: one of the worst came during

the Second World War when it tottered on the brink of bankruptcy after its premises had been commandeered for the war effort.

The Requisitioning Officer arrived, armed with powers of life and death. He turned out to be Maurice Tate, the former Sussex and England seam bowler. There was a run-down chicken farm a mile up the road. "Aha", said Tate, "England needs cricket bats more than hen's eggs", and he promptly requisitioned the farm. Nicolls were allowed to move into the chicken huts in the woods.

At the turn of the century Gilbert Jessop was gaining the sort of reputation as an attacking batsman that Ian Botham enjoys today.

Jessop acknowledged his debt to his batmaker. In 1897 he scored 101 in 40 minutes against Yorkshire and in the following year he wrote to the Stuart Surridge company in London: "Dear Sir, You will be pleased to hear that one of your bats that I purchased at the Oval was used in all my matches, both first and second

class, last season. I should in all probability have been using it next season had not the damp got hold of it whilst crossing to America. Sincerely Yours, Gilbert L. Jessop."

Such a letter may be rare in the 1980s, now that manners have changed and sponsorship and the advent of international agents like Mark McCormack have introduced big money into the game. The rampant commercialism saddens old-timers like Jock Livingston, who runs Gray-Nicolls. But he acknowledges that without sponsorship county cricket might have collapsed long ago.

Livingston, an Australian who scored thousands of runs for Northamptonshire, calculates that every one of the Test cricketers he sponsors will have cost him more than £25,000 by the time he plays for his country. He says the competition between brand-names is so fierce that companies are now "talking in telephone numbers" to attract players, and stories of skulduggery are becoming commonplace.

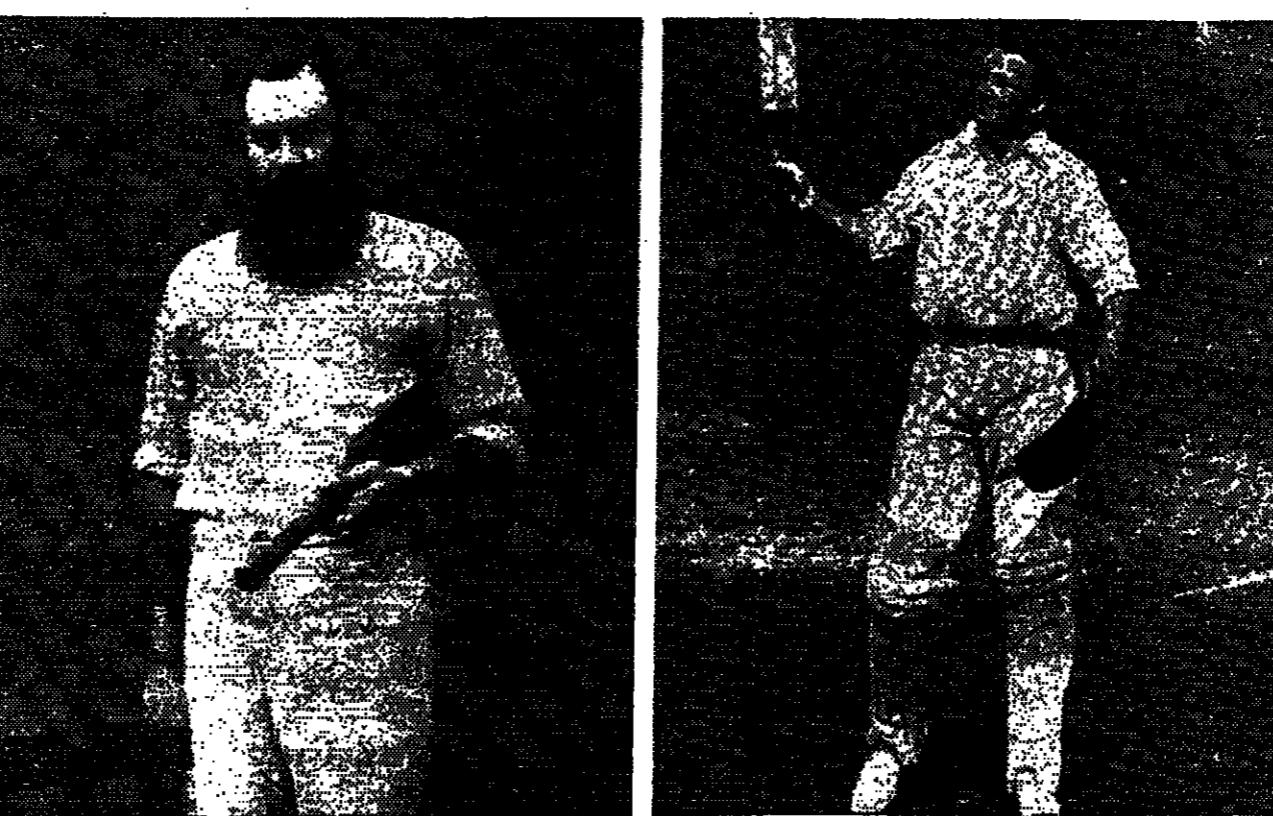
All the bigger firms have players on their books and a high proportion of the 350 or so county cricketers in England are receiving aid in one form or another, if not direct financial payment. The amount varies but it is not likely to be less than the £500-worth of kit that the average county player wears out in a year; stars like Botham or David Gower may well receive sums of up to £10,000.

Just as they set the pace financially, the big names also have a strong influence on general trends in the game and therefore on batmakers.

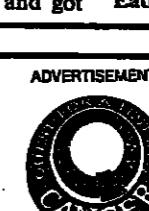
Today's trend is towards heavier bats. With a blunt disregard for his customers Reg Simpson says: "Heavier bats are wrecking batsmanship today. They are why you don't see good hooking or cutting any more. But because Botham uses a heavy bat everyone wants one."

The average player needs a 2lb 7oz bat. Jessop's was abnormally heavy at 2lb 9oz. Botham's weighs over 3lb, as does the one used by Clive Lloyd, the West Indian captain, but both are strong enough to bear the extra burden. Sir Don Bradman, however, had the answer, as he had to most

Straight bats and several cuts above the rest



Masters of the bat: Dr W.G. Grace (left) and Sir Donald Bradman. Grace relied on L.J. Nicolls, the Sussex batmaker, for his bats and even took them to Australia to sell. Bradman scored a record six centuries in succession in the 1938-39 season



NO NEED FOR CANCER WARDS?

A ROUTINE TEST is being developed that diagnoses first signs of cancer earlier than conventional

CERVICAL SCREENING

or

MAMMOGRAPHY

or

THE BODY SCANNER

At this stage

BEFORE A TUMOUR FORMS

treatment is neither drastic nor traumatic

TO CURE CANCER

Clinical trials of the test are in progress at four London hospitals.

Your donation, deed of covenant or legacy will speed progress.

Apart from day to day running costs all the money donated goes directly to the non-animal research.

Our administration is voluntary.

QUEST FOR A TEST FOR CANCER
Woodbury, Harlow Road, Roydon, Essex,
CM19 5HF (027979 2233)

Registered Charity No. 284526

PALMA FROM £59
IBIZA FROM £72
FRONTE £74
MALLORCA FROM £59
GERONA FROM £47
BENIDORM FROM £71
REUS FROM £71
ALICANTE FROM £57

Reserve your flight
to stay where you like

MALAGA FROM £60
SEVILLE FROM £69
ALMERIA FROM £69
TARRAGONA FROM £10
LAS PALMAS FROM £119
LANZAROTE FROM £115
ALGARVE FROM £85

Go where you like

CORFU FROM £29
PHILAEON FROM £29
RHODES FROM £112
KOS FROM £125
ADES FROM £94
ZURICH FROM £77
GIBRALTAR FROM £62
NICOSIA FROM £98

At a price you like

From where you like

Fly from 16 UK airports.
phone and book
LONDON 01-939 54229
MANCHESTER 061-228 0277
BIRMINGHAM 021-227 4467
CARDIFF 0222-26126
BRISTOL 092-21445
NEWCASTLE 0432-815300
GLASGOW 041-532 4466

OR SEE YOUR LOCAL TRAVEL AGENT

air europe
travel

The freedom to arrange your own holiday exactly as you want it. That's the basis of air Europe Travel's low fare flights with leading airlines. Our extensive programme has a No-Surcharge Guarantee, big reductions for children and optional car hire. Ask for our brochure or just phone and book.

22 GROSVENOR GARDENS,
LONDON SW1W 4AU
10 PETER HOUSE, OXFORD ST,
MANCHESTER M1 3AN ATOL 1636

All prices are return and subject to export tax.
Subject to government action.

Fly the Big Money Saver

SUSIMADRONE
HOLIDAYS
WITH A BICYCLE
CYCLING
FOR SOFTIES

Delightful Family Hotels
in
BURGUNDY,
THE CAMARGUE
and
THE WESTERN LOIRE

FRANCE

Details from Susi Madron, Dept T,
11 Norman Road, Manchester M14 5LF.
Telephone: 061-225 0739 (24 hr service).

Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

TRAVEL/1

Linda Christmas on the beauty of the Tasmanian Wilderness, a conservation battleground

Contrary cousins across the water

There has always been a gulf between Tasmania and the rest of Australia. It is called the Bass Strait, and it produces differences and difficulties out of all proportion to its size.

Tasmania refers to the rest of Australia, about 100 miles away, as "the mainland" and its inhabitants as "mainlanders". And how do mainlanders feel about Tassie? Most of the time they do not feel much at all. Earlier this century the residents of Sydney and Melbourne flocked there to avoid the summer heat, but since air-conditioning and cheap flights to Bali, the numbers have decreased. So now when they cast a thought southwards it is usually to mean that the island hanging off the edge there is a drain on the family purse.

The Federal government has given Tasmania more money per capita than any other state because she is the smallest and because her population is tiny - less than half a million - and because that strip of water causes economic difficulties which at times seem insuperable. One Prime Minister became so exasperated that he said he wished he could get a piece of rope and haul Tassie to the mainland or else cut her loose and hope she would float away.

But Tassie is unmoved and refuses to allow dollars from Canberra to bribe her into subservience. She is fiercely proud and independent. When the rest of Australia was returning Liberal governments year in, year out, Tasmania was stubbornly Labour, and now.

It was about a dam which the Tasmanian government thought it would like to build across the Franklin River in south-west Tasmania, home of one of the world's last temperate rain forests and one of the

world's last wild rivers. They call this the Wilderness and it is magnificent, worthy of its world heritage listing.

It is a land of grand river valleys as unspoiled as Eden and still remote enough to evoke a sense of awe. There are no detergents in these waters, no heavy metals or sewage, no beer cans or broken bottles. And this rare river is hedged by a magical band of rare trees. Tasmania already has 39 dams and 26 hydroelectric stations, and conservationists argued that another was unnecessary; after months of impressive blocking, they won their case in the Australian High Court.

Amid the public squabbling an area of Tasmania that had been labelled inaccessible and inhospitable came into focus. To see all this natural beauty at its best one undoubtedly needs to raft down the wild river, but many will be satisfied by a mere glimpse and that is easy.

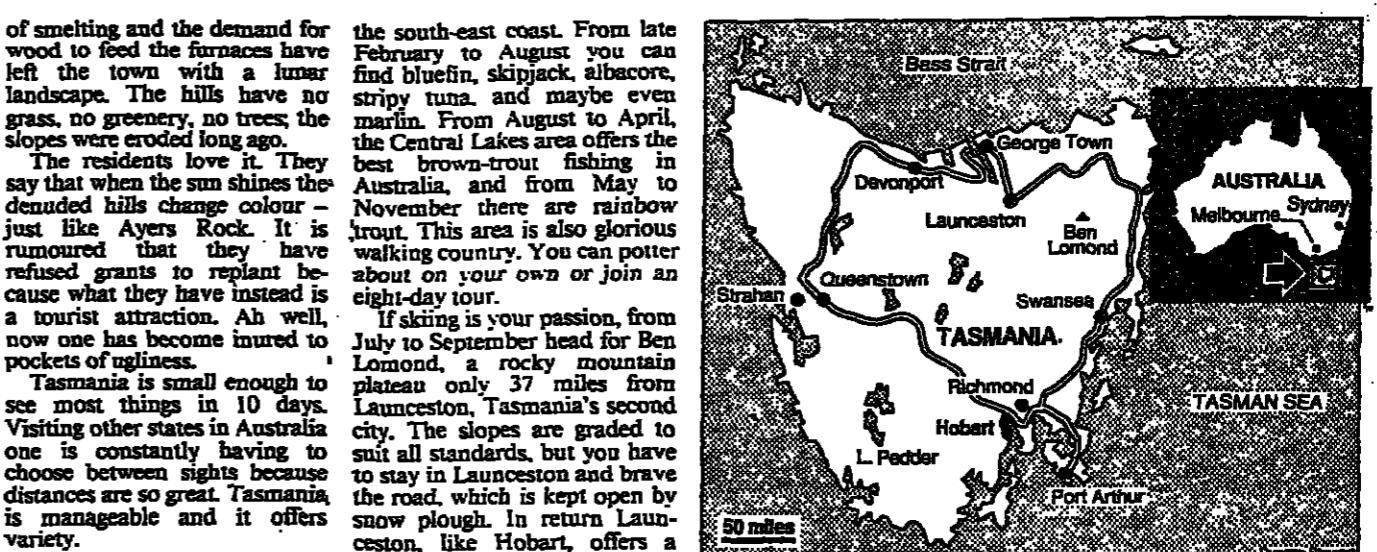
From the town of Strahan, which was once a thriving port and now exists to give tourists access to the Franklin, it is possible to take a six-hour boat ride, through Macquarie harbour, past Sarah Island, where an infamous penal settlement now lies in ruins, and into the river.

To see it is to rejoice that the conservationists won their case. Anyone who is still tempted to think that a tiny bit could have been sacrificed for economic advancement should hurry up the road to Queenstown.

Queenstown is dominated by a copper mine. Uncontrolled pollution during the early days



Exposure: Left, the denuded hills of Queenstown; and David Bellamy protesting against the proposed Franklin River Dam last year



of smelting and the demand for wood to feed the furnaces have left the town with a lunar landscape. The hills have no grass, no greenery, no trees; the slopes were eroded long ago.

The residents love it. They say that when the sun shines the denuded hills change colour just like Ayers Rock. It is rumoured that they have refused grants to replant because what they have instead is a tourist attraction. Ah well, now one has become inured to pockets of agnus.

Tasmania is small enough to see most things in 10 days. Visiting other states in Australia is one is constantly having to choose between sights because distances are so great. Tasmania is manageable and it offers variety. There is game fishing along

the south-east coast. From late February to August you can find bluefin, skipjack, albacore, striped tuna, and maybe even marlin. From August to April, the Central Lakes area offers the best brown-trout fishing in Australia, and from May to November there are rainbow trout. This area is also glorious walking country. You can potter about on your own or join an eight-day tour.

If skiing is your passion, from July to September head for Ben Lomond, a rocky mountain plateau only 37 miles from Launceston, Tasmania's second city. The slopes are graded to suit all standards, but you have to stay in Launceston and brave the road, which is kept open by snow plough. In return Launceston, like Hobart, offers a casino.



Travel notes

The easiest way of getting from the mainland to Tasmania is by boat or plane from Melbourne. From Sydney there are flights only. Once in Australia there are numerous package deals to be bought at any time of year. Mid-Dec to mid-Feb is the high season; mid-Feb to mid-April and mid-Aug to mid-Dec is the low season.

There are few package deals from Britain. Caritas Jetabout, 49 Old Bond Street, London W1 (01-995 1361) offers either a six-day or a 10-day Tasmania tour (from £1,210 to £1,719 depending on the length of stay and time of year). Asia Pacific, 103 Waterloo Road, London SE1 is offering a 17-night tour starting in Adelaide and including a five-day coach tour of Tasmania, and visits to Melbourne, Sydney and Canberra. The cost is from £1,385 to £1,679, again depending on the time of year.

For more general information, write to the Australian Tourist Commission, Park Farm Road, Folkestone, Kent, for a *Traveller's Guide to Australia* and a directory of travel agents with special knowledge of Australia.

JetSave's EUROPE LATEST FARES

from
£79
£125
£145
£155
£175
£199
£215
£235
£255
£275
£295
£315
£335
£355
£375
£395
£415
£435
£455
£475
£495
£515
£535
£555
£575
£595
£615
£635
£655
£675
£695
£715
£735
£755
£775
£795
£815
£835
£855
£875
£895
£915
£935
£955
£975
£995
£1015
£1035
£1055
£1075
£1095
£1115
£1135
£1155
£1175
£1195
£1215
£1235
£1255
£1275
£1295
£1315
£1335
£1355
£1375
£1395
£1415
£1435
£1455
£1475
£1495
£1515
£1535
£1555
£1575
£1595
£1615
£1635
£1655
£1675
£1695
£1715
£1735
£1755
£1775
£1795
£1815
£1835
£1855
£1875
£1895
£1915
£1935
£1955
£1975
£1995
£2015
£2035
£2055
£2075
£2095
£2115
£2135
£2155
£2175
£2195
£2215
£2235
£2255
£2275
£2295
£2315
£2335
£2355
£2375
£2395
£2415
£2435
£2455
£2475
£2495
£2515
£2535
£2555
£2575
£2595
£2615
£2635
£2655
£2675
£2695
£2715
£2735
£2755
£2775
£2795
£2815
£2835
£2855
£2875
£2895
£2915
£2935
£2955
£2975
£2995
£3015
£3035
£3055
£3075
£3095
£3115
£3135
£3155
£3175
£3195
£3215
£3235
£3255
£3275
£3295
£3315
£3335
£3355
£3375
£3395
£3415
£3435
£3455
£3475
£3495
£3515
£3535
£3555
£3575
£3595
£3615
£3635
£3655
£3675
£3695
£3715
£3735
£3755
£3775
£3795
£3815
£3835
£3855
£3875
£3895
£3915
£3935
£3955
£3975
£3995
£4015
£4035
£4055
£4075
£4095
£4115
£4135
£4155
£4175
£4195
£4215
£4235
£4255
£4275
£4295
£4315
£4335
£4355
£4375
£4395
£4415
£4435
£4455
£4475
£4495
£4515
£4535
£4555
£4575
£4595
£4615
£4635
£4655
£4675
£4695
£4715
£4735
£4755
£4775
£4795
£4815
£4835
£4855
£4875
£4895
£4915
£4935
£4955
£4975
£4995
£5015
£5035
£5055
£5075
£5095
£5115
£5135
£5155
£5175
£5195
£5215
£5235
£5255
£5275
£5295
£5315
£5335
£5355
£5375
£5395
£5415
£5435
£5455
£5475
£5495
£5515
£5535
£5555
£5575
£5595
£5615
£5635
£5655
£5675
£5695
£5715
£5735
£5755
£5775
£5795
£5815
£5835
£5855
£5875
£5895
£5915
£5935
£5955
£5975
£5995
£6015
£6035
£6055
£6075
£6095
£6115
£6135
£6155
£6175
£6195
£6215
£6235
£6255
£6275
£6295
£6315
£6335
£6355
£6375
£6395
£6415
£6435
£6455
£6475
£6495
£6515
£6535
£6555
£6575
£6595
£6615
£6635
£6655
£6675
£6695
£6715
£6735
£6755
£6775
£6795
£6815
£6835
£6855
£6875
£6895
£6915
£6935
£6955
£6975
£6995
£7015
£7035
£7055
£7075
£7095
£7115
£7135
£7155
£7175
£7195
£7215
£7235
£7255
£7275
£7295
£7315
£7335
£7355
£7375
£7395
£7415
£7435
£7455
£7475
£7495
£7515
£7535
£7555
£7575
£7595
£7615
£7635
£7655
£7675
£7695
£7715
£7735
£7755
£7775
£7795
£7815
£7835
£7855
£7875
£7895
£7915
£7935
£7955
£7975
£7995
£8015
£8035
£8055
£8075
£8095
£8115
£8135
£8155
£8175
£8195
£8215
£8235
£8255
£8275
£8295
£8315
£8335
£8355
£8375
£8395
£8415
£8435
£8455
£8475
£8495
£8515
£8535
£8555
£8575
£8595
£8615
£8635
£8655
£8675
£8695
£8715
£8735
£8755
£8775
£8795
£8815
£8835
£8855
£8875
£8895
£8915
£8935
£8955
£8975
£8995
£9015
£9035
£9055
£9075
£9095
£9115
£9135
£9155
£9175
£9195
£9215
£9235
£9255
£9275
£9295
£9315
£9335
£9355
£9375
£9395
£9415
£9435
£9455
£9475
£9495
£9515
£9535
£9555
£9575
£9595
£9615
£9635
£9655
£9675
£9695
£9715
£9735
£9755
£9775
£9795
£9815
£9835
£9855
£9875
£9895
£9915
£9935
£9955
£9975
£9995
£10015
£10035
£10055
£10075
£10095
£10115
£10135
£10155
£10175
£10195
£10215
£10235
£10255
£10275
£10295
£10315
£10335
£10355
£10375
£10395
£10415
£10435
£10455
£10475
£10495
£10515
£10535
£10555
£10575
£10595
£10615
£10635
£10655
£10675
£10695
£10715
£10735
£10755
£10775
£10795
£10815
£10835
£10855
£10875
£10895
£10915
£10935
£10955
£10975
£10995
£11015
£11035
£11055
£11075
£11095
£11115
£11135
£11155
£11175
£11195
£11215
£11235
£11255
£11275
£11295
£11315
£11335
£11355
£11375
£11395
£11415
£11435
£11455
£11475
£11495
£11515
£11535
£11555
£11575
£11595
£11615
£11635
£11655
£11675
£11695
£11715
£11735
£11755
£11775
£11795
£11815
£11835
£11855
£11875
£11895
£11915
£11935
£11955
£11975
£11995

Nine holes in the heat of the Spanish Strip

As an occasional and very erratic golfer, I had never seriously expected to find myself playing at one of those luxurious Mediterranean country clubs which I had occasionally seen advertised. An English or Irish seaside links, midweek and preferably out of season, had hitherto been more my style. There I could hack away in decent obscurity.

But an unexpected invitation arrived to spend a few days at La Manga, in the south-east of Spain, and, with my wife and children staying with her family, it seemed the perfect opportunity to sample the high life. I recalled the name vaguely from, of all places, a cricket-pavilion notice board. Since the complex also includes a cricket ground and invites visits by British clubs.

At first sight, the scorched arid landscape of Murcia in late August looked less than inviting. But as we drove between the two golf courses, lush and green thanks to an army of giant sprinklers and up the hill to our beautifully sited, almost brand new hotel, our spirits rose sharply.

Although much of the surrounding landscape is mountainous, the view from the patio next morning was of a flat plain stretching away to the sea, and of the distant shapes of tall, modern buildings. They were part of the tourist resort town of Mar Menor, locally known as the Strip, which occupies a long, thin sandbank stretching for several miles between the "little sea" and the ocean.

'Bumped' passengers to be offered free flights

British Airways has come up with a new scheme to compensate passengers who turn up at the airport with a confirmed ticket only to find that the flight is overbooked.

"Bumped" passengers on some European routes from Heathrow will be asked if they would like to volunteer for a later flight in return for a free travel voucher.

Under the existing system operated by most European airlines, passengers whose flight is overbooked are entitled to only a 50 per cent refund of the one-way fare, subject to a ceiling of £100, and then only if they are transferred to a flight which arrives at their destination more than four hours later than their planned schedule.

BA claims that only seven passengers in every 10,000 are unable to travel on the flight they booked, half the number of three years ago.

Dover hover

Hovertravel will be increasing its hovercraft services from Dover to Calais and Boulogne this summer, with 33 flights a day in each direction during the peak season, compared with 28 last year. The first flight of the day from Dover will be brought forward by an hour to 6am. The average price of tickets will be up 8 per cent higher than conventional ferries.

Car cuts

The price of car rentals in Ireland booked through Aer Lingus has been cut following the recent reduction in VAT. Reductions vary between about £3 and £11 per week throughout the summer, depending on the model rented.

Cruising back

The world's largest passenger ship, the 70,000-ton Norway (formerly the France), makes a brief return to British waters this summer for the first time in four years. The ship, run by Norwegian Caribbean Lines, will operate a two-night mini-cruise from Southampton to Amsterdam, departing on July 26, before continuing on a two-week voyage to the North Cape and Norwegian fjords. It returns to Southampton on September 26 to take on passengers for an 11-night cruise to Bermuda, Nassau and Miami.

Golf for gourmets

Gastronomy, golf and visits to historic sites are among the special-interest activities included in the summer "Highlife Breaks" programme just published by Thistle Hotels. A typical "gourmet weekend" at the Bedford Arms in Cheltenham, Herefordshire, offers guests an



Fore, señor: A golfer tees off to test his skills against the challenging links of La Manga

The town is about six miles from the club, and it was there we headed, after concluding the unwise venture after nine holes. One of my colleagues, who takes his game rather seriously, was so appalled by the whole business that he refused to play any more for the rest of our stay, choosing to spend the next day journeying to a distant market. Since I refuse to believe that any rational man can prefer a market to a golf course, I can only conclude that his pique must have affected his judgment.

I do remember that we ended with champagne, supplied with the compliments of the presumably incredulous owner of the restaurant, and that in the early evening we staggered on to the course to play some of the most atrocious "golf" that La Manga

can ever have witnessed. Fortunately, hardly anyone was about, and we abandoned the unwise venture after nine holes. One of my colleagues, who takes his game rather seriously, was so appalled by the whole business that he refused to play any more for the rest of our stay, choosing to spend the next day journeying to a distant market. Since I refuse to believe that any rational man can prefer a market to a golf course, I can only conclude that his pique must have affected his judgment.

The rest of us managed to play rather better on the following days, but we were also

duty-bound to sample the club's water sports facilities.

The complex is now owned by European Ferries, the previous owners having got into financial difficulties. A substantial building programme is in process, and we were shown some attractive, if rather uniform, self-catering villas. The company assures prospective purchasers that it will try to rent them out when they are not using them, but I would not count on that to meet the loan payments.

The golf courses, by the way, are surprisingly challenging, mainly due to the presence of a huge ravine which winds itself around and across almost every hole, often in the most disconcerting places. But for the public brochure to describe them as "arguably the best in Europe" is somewhat overstating things.

John Young

Peter Stuyvesant Travel offer apartments for four people (accommodation only) from £190 to £224 a week for seven nights depending on season; two-person studios cost from £199 to £234 a week; a double room, half board, at the Las Mimosas hotel costs from £260 to £305. The prices for 14 nights are £230-£298, £255-£323 and £350-£458 respectively. All prices include return flight from Gatwick, local transportation, car hire, green fees and use of tennis courts.

Peter Stuyvesant Travel



**SARDINIA:
SPLENDID
NATURE**
IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SEA.

BEST PERIODS ARE KNOWN AS LOW SEASON.

A wild island with unspoilt nature, wonderful coasts, a great history and tradition, and good cooking. Sardinia is waiting for you with particular incentives from September to June

EST
Ente Sardo
Industrie
Turistiche

VIA MAMELI, 97 - 09100 CAGLIARI
TEL. 070 66.85.22 - TELEX 79134-
.... OR BY YOUR TRAVEL AGENT

ITALIAN TOURIST OFFICE
1 PRINCES STREET
LONDON W. 1R 8AY



45% off the return fare to Germany.

We've cut the price of getting there but not the style in which you do it.

It means £108 to Frankfurt instead of £202.

£87 to Cologne instead of £160.

£137 to Munich instead of £258.

Along with similar savings to Nuremberg, Dusseldorf, Bremen, Hamburg, Hanover, and Stuttgart.

The only condition is that you pay when you book and stay one Saturday night.

No one can offer lower scheduled fares to Germany.

Yet you still fly on a plane that's part of one of the most modern fleets in the world. An Airbus, Boeing 727 or 737.

You still get the full treatment on board. Free spirits and free newspapers. As well as a selection of fine vintage wines with your meal.

And, of course, you still arrive on time. We're known for our punctuality.

But what if you want a complete ready-made holiday rather than just the flight?

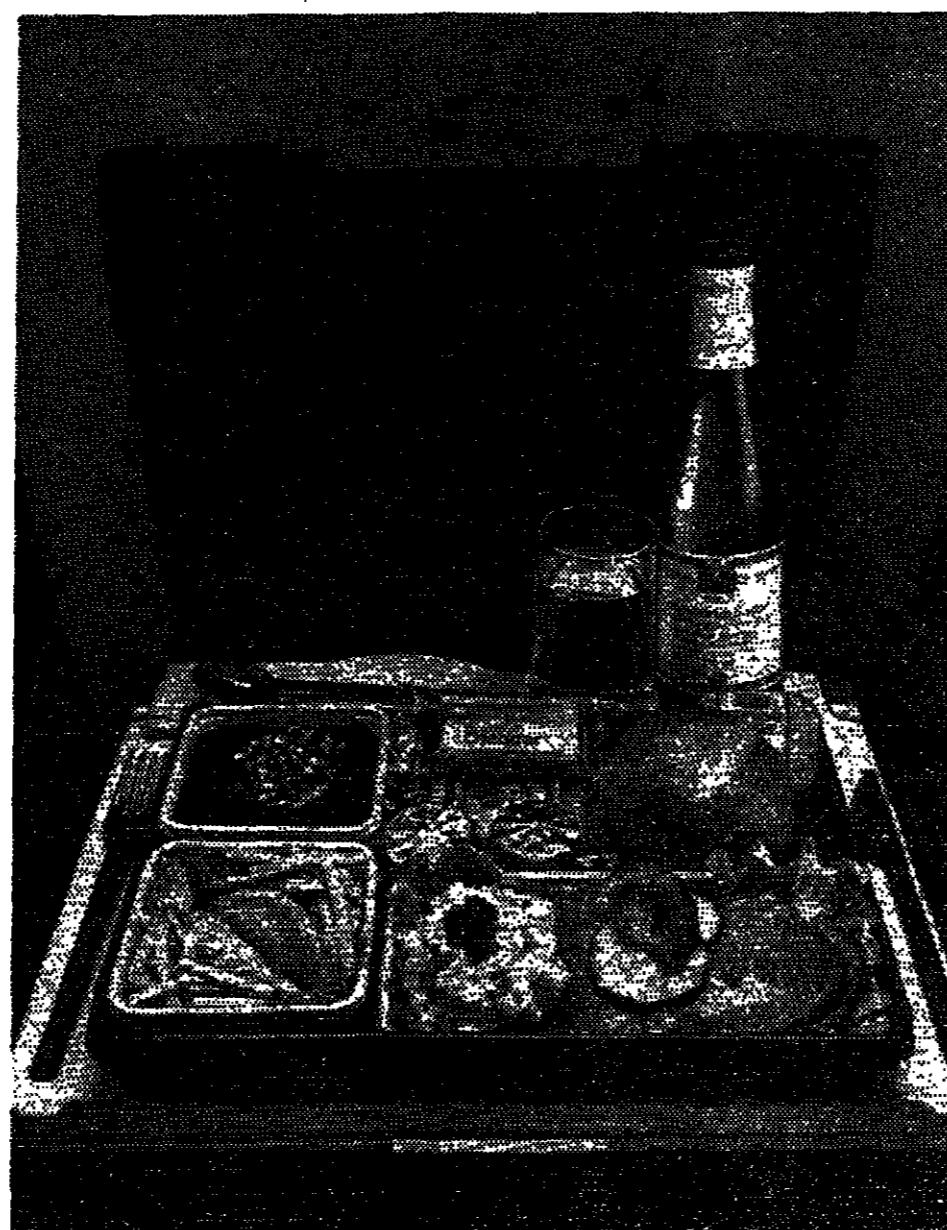
We can help there, too.

We can offer a wide range of independent holidays in Germany and Austria based on scheduled flights from Heathrow and Manchester.

Write to: Lufthansa Tours Dept., 10 Old Bond St., London W1, for our brochure, or contact your local travel agent.



Lufthansa



**Guaranteed
prices, and a host
of free 'extras'**

All our prices are guaranteed throughout Summer '84, with no exceptions. No hidden extras, but lots of quality extras free or drastically reduced. Like 1st-class UK rail fares, reduced airport hotel rates, half-price watersports, free tours. This is real value.

PHONE DIRECT 01-631 3278
PETER STUYVESANT TRAVEL

Phone or
send today for the
Summer '84 brochure.

Name _____

Address _____

T108

ASTA ATOL 517

35 Alfred Place, London WC1E 7DY
Open: Mon - Fri 9-5.30

U.K. HOLIDAYS

SHORT STAY BREAKS MEAN
MORE IN OUR COUNTRY

Country Club Hotels Weekend breaks offer:
• 2 night stay (Friday and Saturday) • Optional Sunday night as special rate
• Superior accommodation with private facilities • Full breakfast, dinner and
Sunday lunch included • 10% discount on all other meals, including afternoon
tea, golf, squash & 50+ rural locations • FREE accommodation for children (up to
14 years sharing parents' room) • All from just £52 per person
Longer stays from 3 to 7 nights start at just £52.50 per night.
Full details in our Leisure Breaks brochure. Telephone or write to:

COUNTRY CLUB HOTELS

**ROCK
NORTH CORNWALL**
A number of self-catering superior
houses and bungalows in the
Rock, Daymer Bay and Polzeath
areas. Free brochure: John Bray &
Pete Rock, Whitebridge PL27 6JS.
01208 25025 (24 hrs).

**DALES NATIONAL PARK,
THE TRADOCK,
AUSTWICK LAZ BAY.**
Charming Georgian country house. Set
in our semi-rural grounds. Family
run, excellent food and wines. Com-
plete tranquility in this delightful
unspoilt Dales village.
Write for brochure or phone 0462 3242.

**HISTORIC BURWICK-UPON-
THE-WATER, North Yorkshire.**
Moors Large 1st class house, sleeps
8-10. Tel 01759 760-778

NEAR HORSHAM, West Sussex.
Conveniently located, 10 miles, beautiful
views over farm land. Tel: Stanfield
104031 79320.

**EAST PORTLETHONTH on Salcombe
Estuary, Devon.** 10 miles from Dartmoor.
Sleeps 8. 2 Avail. some weeks
May-June. Tel 01752 826462.

**NOTHREBBES, Nr. Croyde, converted
Norfolk barn. Fully equipped. Sleeps 6 +
cot. Sited on walled garden. Tel:
10451 77700.**

HOLIDAY FLAT to let in country
house near Buxton. Sleeps 4/5.
riding available. Ring Buxton 2134
and Winstan 300 (01264)

CORNISH COTTAGES, farmhouses
cottages sleep near sea. Falmouth,
Penzance, St Ives, Newquay, Padstow,
Fowey & St. Mawes. Mrs
Penruddick. 01736 770599.

SCOTTISH BORDER cottages,
furnished. 3 beds. Sleeps 6. on private
Estuaries. 4 hours from Cumbria.
Cottages. Tel 01202 507183.

2 & 3 B.R. IDEAL period cottages. ad-
2 1/2 cent manor house situated river
bank dry fishing. Linen, col. tel.
01702 211000. Tel 01702 211000.
Open all year. Christmas. Book now.

3 COTTAGES, Sleeps 2, 3 and 4. In
pretty village. Hand for York,
Skipton and Skipton and Autumn
vacations. Tel 01202 507183.

PEAK DISTRICT 6000+ acres. Cosy
Georgian style cottage. 2 beds. C.N.
1270. Tel 01202 544906

RIVER. Self-catering
apartments overlooking delightful
Port Navas, creek. Self-catering
apartments. Tel 01202 50842.

DEVON COUNTRY HOLIDAY houses. Wooded
grounds overlooking sea. 3 star bed
and breakfast. Tel 01202 50842.

Jersey at its most beautiful
Enjoy the quiet of Jersey where spring and summer come early
but not the crowds. For a relaxing and memorable holiday
choose from a wide range of 1-star to 4-star hotels.
LA PLACE HOTEL, Dept. T
St. Helier, Jersey, G24 4RZ. Tel 0344 27777
Located north, situated in a peaceful
country setting close to the sea. Only 3 miles
from St. Helier. The atmosphere of an old
country hotel coupled with modern luxury.
Write or phone the hotel of your choice
for full details and colour brochure.
Delichot Hotels

**KENT
FAMILY HOTEL
SEA FRONT**
In and out doors. Family run.
Self-catering. Superior 4 star
family accommodation. Tel. 0303 221465
or 0303 221475. **INTERIEU HOTEL**
Westgate on Sea
0548 580340

BLAKENEY
An unparalleled opportunity to
purchase a holiday of a lifetime for
a lifetime almost anywhere in the
world from as little as £1,250.
Want to know more?
Tel: Hunting Gate Leisure on 0462
31244 and ask for our brochure.

DON'T HUNT!
Let us do it for you.
Superb selection of personally
selected cottages available for
short breaks. Cottages throughout
the West of England &
Wales. Contact us for 12 person
cottage brochure. Tel 0303 221465
or 0303 221475.

PEAK DISTRICT Tideswell Dale, self-
catering. Bungalow - beautifully situ-
ated. 14 bedrooms. Superb leisure,
children's play areas bordering
sheep track. Driv. 0302 521102.

DERBYSHIRE PEAK DISTRICT.
Charming converted cottage. Sleeps 4-5.
Cottages. Tel 0302 521102.

ANGLESY, comfortable stone built
cottages. Sleeps 5-6. CTO p.w. Inc.
Tel 01286 770-770. Tel 01286 770-607.

NORTH CORNWALL, Beautiful 17th c
cottage with sea view, 500 yds. from
the beach. Sleeps 4/5. Tel 01208 441111.

BORTH Country cottage. Sleeps 200.
Tel 01208 441111.

ALLENHEADS stone cottage, situated.
Sleeps 4-6. Ideal Lakes.
Tel 01208 441111.

S CORNISH coast, 6 bed, most dates
over £250. Tel 01208 441111.

EASTER in Cottages. Sunny couch-
ing. Tel 01208 441111.

CLEY-NEXT-THE-SEA 2 special
cottage. Tel 01208 441111.

LOCH SWEEEN, luxury house, sleeps
8. Tel 01208 441111.

PEMBROKESHIRE S/C flat, fully
furnished. Tel 01208 441111.

YORKSHIRE DALES Kettlewell,
Wharfedale. Charming guest house in
the heart of the Dales. Superb views,
walking country. Comfortable rooms
with central heating, with 4/5, 6/7
bedrooms. Tel 01208 441111.

WYRE ideal period cottage. ad-
2 1/2 cent manor house situated river
bank dry fishing. Linen, col. tel.
01702 211000. Tel 01702 211000.
Open all year. Christmas. Book now.

3 COTTAGES, Sleeps 2, 3 and 4. In
pretty village. Hand for York,
Skipton and Skipton and Autumn
vacations. Tel 01202 507183.

PEAK DISTRICT 6000+ acres. Cosy
Georgian style cottage. 2 beds. C.N.
1270. Tel 01202 544906

RIVER. Self-catering
apartments overlooking delightful
Port Navas, creek. Self-catering
apartments. Tel 01202 50842.

DEVON COUNTRY HOLIDAY houses. Wooded
grounds overlooking sea. 3 star bed
and breakfast. Tel 01202 50842

BORTH Country cottage. Sleeps 200.
Tel 01208 441111.

ALLENHEADS stone cottage, situated.
Sleeps 4-6. Ideal Lakes.
Tel 01208 441111.

S CORNISH coast, 6 bed, most dates
over £250. Tel 01208 441111.

EASTER in Cottages. Sunny couch-
ing. Tel 01208 441111.

CLEY-NEXT-THE-SEA 2 special
cottage. Tel 01208 441111.

LOCH SWEEEN, luxury house, sleeps
8. Tel 01208 441111.

PEMBROKESHIRE S/C flat, fully
furnished. Tel 01208 441111.

YORKSHIRE DALES Kettlewell,
Wharfedale. Charming guest house in
the heart of the Dales. Superb views,
walking country. Comfortable rooms
with central heating, with 4/5, 6/7
bedrooms. Tel 01208 441111.

WYRE ideal period cottage. ad-
2 1/2 cent manor house situated river
bank dry fishing. Linen, col. tel.
01702 211000. Tel 01702 211000.
Open all year. Christmas. Book now.

3 COTTAGES, Sleeps 2, 3 and 4. In
pretty village. Hand for York,
Skipton and Skipton and Autumn
vacations. Tel 01202 507183.

PEAK DISTRICT 6000+ acres. Cosy
Georgian style cottage. 2 beds. C.N.
1270. Tel 01202 544906

RIVER. Self-catering
apartments overlooking delightful
Port Navas, creek. Self-catering
apartments. Tel 01202 50842.

DEVON COUNTRY HOLIDAY houses. Wooded
grounds overlooking sea. 3 star bed
and breakfast. Tel 01202 50842

BORTH Country cottage. Sleeps 200.
Tel 01208 441111.

ALLENHEADS stone cottage, situated.
Sleeps 4-6. Ideal Lakes.
Tel 01208 441111.

S CORNISH coast, 6 bed, most dates
over £250. Tel 01208 441111.

EASTER in Cottages. Sunny couch-
ing. Tel 01208 441111.

CLEY-NEXT-THE-SEA 2 special
cottage. Tel 01208 441111.

LOCH SWEEEN, luxury house, sleeps
8. Tel 01208 441111.

PEMBROKESHIRE S/C flat, fully
furnished. Tel 01208 441111.

YORKSHIRE DALES Kettlewell,
Wharfedale. Charming guest house in
the heart of the Dales. Superb views,
walking country. Comfortable rooms
with central heating, with 4/5, 6/7
bedrooms. Tel 01208 441111.

WYRE ideal period cottage. ad-
2 1/2 cent manor house situated river
bank dry fishing. Linen, col. tel.
01702 211000. Tel 01702 211000.
Open all year. Christmas. Book now.

3 COTTAGES, Sleeps 2, 3 and 4. In
pretty village. Hand for York,
Skipton and Skipton and Autumn
vacations. Tel 01202 507183.

PEAK DISTRICT 6000+ acres. Cosy
Georgian style cottage. 2 beds. C.N.
1270. Tel 01202 544906

RIVER. Self-catering
apartments overlooking delightful
Port Navas, creek. Self-catering
apartments. Tel 01202 50842.

DEVON COUNTRY HOLIDAY houses. Wooded
grounds overlooking sea. 3 star bed
and breakfast. Tel 01202 50842

BORTH Country cottage. Sleeps 200.
Tel 01208 441111.

ALLENHEADS stone cottage, situated.
Sleeps 4-6. Ideal Lakes.
Tel 01208 441111.

S CORNISH coast, 6 bed, most dates
over £250. Tel 01208 441111.

EASTER in Cottages. Sunny couch-
ing. Tel 01208 441111.

CLEY-NEXT-THE-SEA 2 special
cottage. Tel 01208 441111.

LOCH SWEEEN, luxury house, sleeps
8. Tel 01208 441111.

PEMBROKESHIRE S/C flat, fully
furnished. Tel 01208 441111.

YORKSHIRE DALES Kettlewell,
Wharfedale. Charming guest house in
the heart of the Dales. Superb views,
walking country. Comfortable rooms
with central heating, with 4/5, 6/7
bedrooms. Tel 01208 441111.

WYRE ideal period cottage. ad-
2 1/2 cent manor house situated river
bank dry fishing. Linen, col. tel.
01702 211000. Tel 01702 211000.
Open all year. Christmas. Book now.

3 COTTAGES, Sleeps 2, 3 and 4. In
pretty village. Hand for York,
Skipton and Skipton and Autumn
vacations. Tel 01202 507183.

PEAK DISTRICT 6000+ acres. Cosy
Georgian style cottage. 2 beds. C.N.
1270. Tel 01202 544906

RIVER. Self-catering
apartments overlooking delightful
Port Navas, creek. Self-catering
apartments. Tel 01202 50842.

DEVON COUNTRY HOLIDAY houses. Wooded
grounds overlooking sea. 3 star bed
and breakfast. Tel 01202 50842

BORTH Country cottage. Sleeps 200.
Tel 01208 441111.

ALLENHEADS stone cottage, situated.
Sleeps 4-6. Ideal Lakes.
Tel 01208 441111.

S CORNISH coast, 6 bed, most dates
over £250. Tel 01208 441111.

EASTER in Cottages. Sunny couch-
ing. Tel 01208 441111.

CLEY-NEXT-THE-SEA 2 special
cottage. Tel 01208 441111.

LOCH SWEEEN, luxury house, sleeps
8. Tel 01208 441111.

PEMBROKESHIRE S/C flat, fully
furnished. Tel 01208 441111.

YORKSHIRE DALES Kettlewell,
Wharfedale. Charming guest house in
the heart of the Dales. Superb views,
walking country. Comfortable rooms
with central heating, with 4/5, 6/7
bedrooms. Tel 01208 441111.

WYRE ideal period cottage. ad-
2 1/2 cent manor house situated river
bank dry fishing. Linen, col. tel.
01702 211000. Tel 01702 211000.
Open all year. Christmas. Book now.

3 COTTAGES, Sleeps 2, 3 and 4. In
pretty village. Hand for York,
Skipton and Skipton and Autumn
vacations. Tel 01202 507183.

VALUES

Beryl Downing discovers that the debate on children's shoes is as broad as it is long

Fitting neatly into a growth market

Which comes first when choosing children's shoes - fit, fashion or price? Parents say fit, daughters as young as eight say fashion, but John Timpson, head of the William Timpson shoe chain, thinks the simplest way to solve foot problems is to get the price right.

"Children's shoes are too expensive", he says. "The result is that parents put off buying a new pair for too long and the children are walking with shoes a couple of sizes too small."

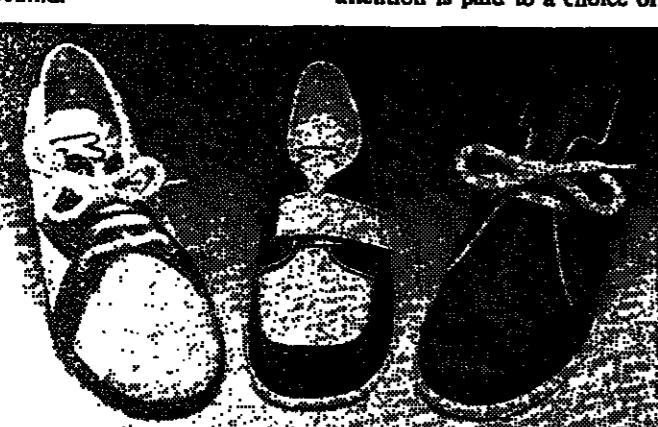
"I don't believe, as the trade does, that a lot of foot problems are caused by children not wearing precisely the right width of shoes. All the evidence is that any problems connected with incorrect fitting start at the toe end. The damage done by incorrect width is minimal."

Not that John Timpson, who bought back the 119-year-old family business from the Hanson Trust last year, dismisses all width fitting as unnecessary. He simply prefers to offer a limited selection of styles in any one fitting, instead of keeping a stock of many styles in every possible permutation of widths and lengths, which increases the price of each.

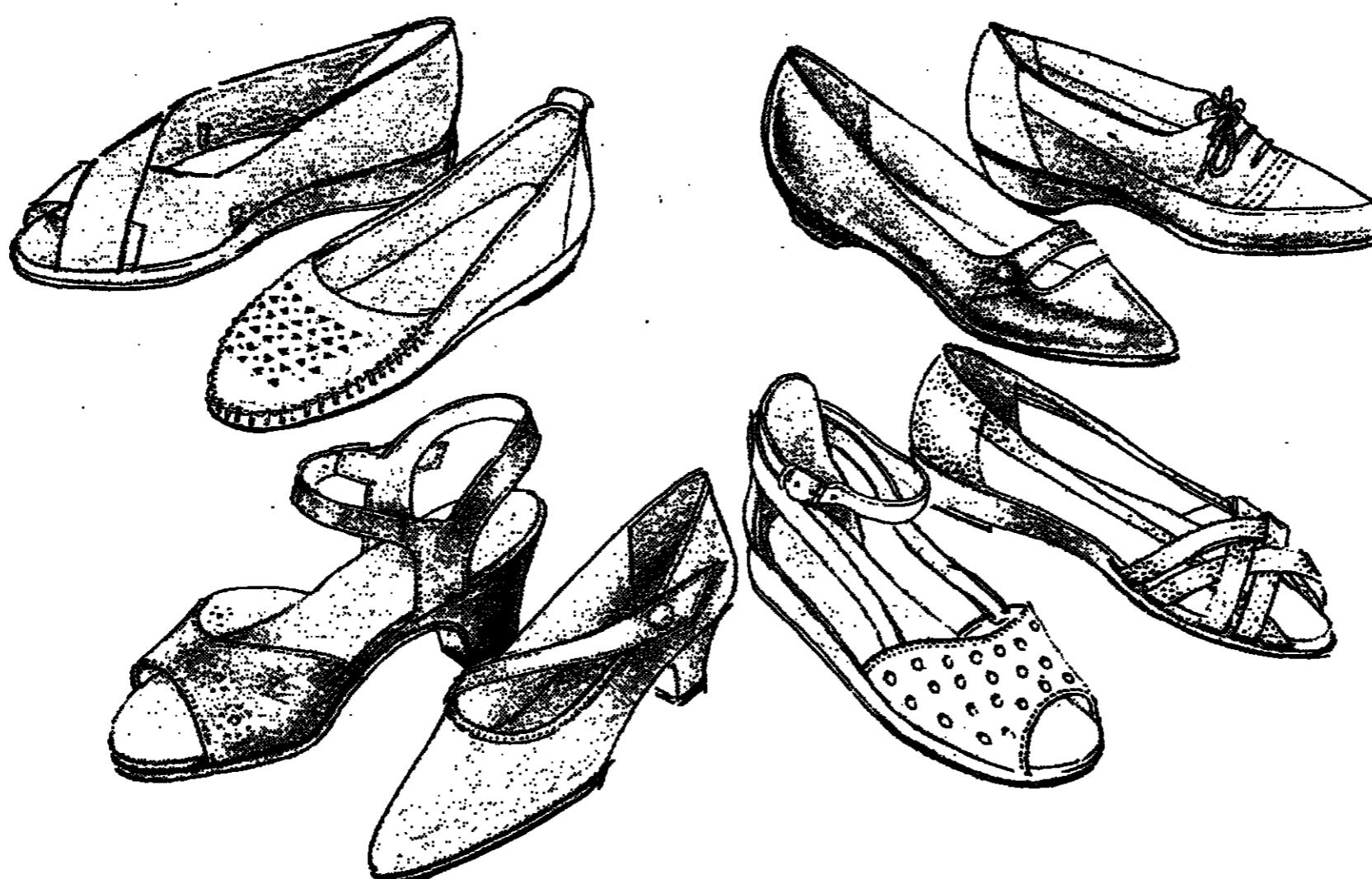
His policy, according to a survey conducted last year by the National Federation of Consumer Groups, has made Timpson's children's shoes the cheapest generally available, with Birthday, the British Shoe Corporation brand, next and Clarks and Start-rite at the upper end.

For children with unusually narrow or wide fittings, however, Clarks and Start-rite are still the best answer. Undoubtedly the disadvantage of offering fewer styles in any one width fitting is that parent and child are likely to find it even more difficult to agree.

Perhaps the styles most likely to satisfy both points of view, at least for casual wear, are the new K Koalas. K are relative newcomers to the children's market and their policy for most ranges is the traditional one of supplying in several widths. The new range, though, in only two widths, has a flair for style and colour that is likely to leave the other children's manufacturers several steps behind.



Soft and bouncy: Koala children's shoes by K: From left, Bop, sizes 11-5½, £14.75 to £14.99; Banjo, sizes 6-10½, £12.99; and Saip, sizes 11-5½, £15.75 to £15.99. Leather, available in various colours, from K Shoe Shop, Brent Cross, London W4. For local stockists telephone 0539 24343.



Stepping out: Top row, hyacinth blue leather sandal by Solaria £8.99, white leather moccasin, Instep £9.99, black pointed manmade shoe with shaped heel, Sorrento £8.99, grey leather lace-up DB Shoe £8.99. Front row navy synthetic sandal with 1½in. heel, Instep £4.99, grey synthetic bar shoe, 1½in. heel, Sorrento £8.99, beige suede ankle strap sandal Solaria £8.99, grey snake finish manmade sandal, Instep £6.99. All shown in size 12 from Timpson's.

1½in. heel, Instep £4.99, grey synthetic bar shoe, 1½in. heel, Sorrento £8.99, beige suede ankle strap sandal Solaria £8.99, grey snake finish manmade sandal, Instep £6.99. All shown in size 12 from Timpson's.

There are five styles, all with the trainer look, in soft leathers with tie fastenings or Velcro, and the brilliant colours - yellow and red, bright green and white, powder blue - are quite unlike the usual British offerings.

They are available in E and F widths, sizes child's 4 to adult 5½, and at prices from £12.99 to £15.99. Because of the soft leather and unstructured shape two fittings are expected to suit most widths - a policy practised on the Continent and in the United States, where more attention is paid to a choice of

widths and they will fit D and EEE when they are adults.

K Shoes say that 24 per cent of people already wear D fittings and as part of their attempt to transform what they admit to have been a rather dowdy image they are now producing attractive leather fashion shoes with a much younger look in widths from AA to D for less than £20.

People with narrow feet are getting more attention from multiple shops as well as specialists such as Crispins in Chiltern Street, London W1, and Royal Exchange, Manchester. A. Jones & Sons have also made special efforts in the past few years and have a range of AA fittings from £29 to £39 in a limited number of branches, with a few AA sandals from £20. They also specialize in Van-Dal broad fittings up to D and E.

Those who have really odd feet - and it is common to have one foot at least half a size larger than the other - can order shoes through Clarks odd shoe service, which allows customers to buy one shoe longer and wider (up to F and G) than the other at a cost of 25 per cent more than the standard price.

The service takes about two weeks and applies only to a limited number of styles in the Clarks catalogue. In practice, I am told, it depends on just how

fit or fashion? The selection of Timpson shoes illustrated above were shown to Hannah Young, an eight-year-old consumer, who was enchanted by them all and pronounced the two styled bottom row, left, as her favourites.

Her mother was not so impressed. None looked strong enough to withstand hard wear, she said, and none seemed suitable for an eight-year-old.

"I frequently complain about

cooperative is the manager of your local Clarks stockist. Timpson's offer a more expensive solution: a 20 per cent discount on the second pair you buy. This means throwing away two.

Some companies still offer a made-to-order service, which is, inevitably, expensive. But James Taylor & Sons of 4 Paddington Street, London W1 (01-935 4149), have been specializing in orthopaedic shoes for so long (they were established in 1857) that they can often find shoes for problem feet from stock, or can adapt ready-made shoes.

They also make to order from £250 plus VAT (not payable with a doctor's note); or, for people with odd feet, they offer Portland shoes at £55 to £60 or John Locke factory made-to-measure shoes at around £70.

Taking care to make children wear the right shoes is not enough - it is clear that they can still ruin their feet after the bones have stopped growing.

Both these companies will split sizes.

A new aid for people with artificial or arthritic limbs or hips are Cantilever Comfort Hicis, which absorb shock.

Made of thick rubber they have a groove round the back of each heel which closes as the foot touches the ground, reducing the impact. For men's or ladies' shoes with wide heels, they are about £10 a pair.

Even those with perfect feet must beware: there is one trend that seems inevitable. It takes 25 years, says John Timpson, for stiletto heels to come back into fashion, so we are due for another dose of crippling footwear soon.

Taking care to make children wear the right shoes is not enough - it is clear that they can still ruin their feet after the bones have stopped growing.

IN THE GARDEN

Give in to temptation and find a peaceful place in the sun

Fritillarias are a genus of mostly hardy, bulbous plants which do very well in gardens in this country. They are not always easy to establish but it is well worth the time and effort needed to produce a garden display. April/May is their normal flowering period, and while some are now flowered in protected borders, others in more exposed spots could take a little while yet.

Selecting the right site for these plants is the first essential. They require specific conditions without which they do not establish. *F. imperialis* is a good border plant and once planted should be left alone to establish. It does not like disturbance and should be placed where there other bulbs you have dealt with, they will not tolerate bad handling.

Identify the site should be in full sun; partial shade is tolerable, but the plants are not happy and would be unlikely to flower in a heavily shaded site. They also need ground which is well-drained and which has been well-worked over a number of years. A rich, fertile soil is what they demand and the results are quickly apparent if the soil is thin and poor.

Fritillaria meleagris requires

a soil which has the ability to retain moisture but which is well-drained. The plants

are equally happy in the front of a border, in a pocket on the rock garden or naturalized through grass.

F. imperialis will grow to a height of about 3ft, while *F. meleagris* is usually only 15in high, although heights vary according to conditions.

Once they have seen the fritillaria in flower, there are few gardeners who are not tempted to try a few. Now is the time to look at what is available and to decide which forms you would like in your own gardens. One important point is that, although they may resemble other bulbs you have dealt with, they will not tolerate bad handling.

Great care must be exercised when buying bulbs - the last

bulbs you want are those which have been on the bench in the nursery or garden centre for some time. Bulbs should be bought fresh and planted as soon as possible. If you are unable to plant them within a day of purchase, they should be stored in moist peat until the soil is thin and poor.

Fritillaria meleagris requires

a soil which has the ability to

retain moisture but which is

well-drained. The plants

are equally happy in the front of a border, in a pocket on the rock garden or naturalized through grass.

F. imperialis will grow to a

height of about 3ft, while *F. meleagris* is usually only 15in high, although heights vary according to conditions.

Fritillaria meleagris has

grass-like foliage growing up

the stem but stopping below

the bell-shaped flowers, which

are produced in pairs. The

flowers have a white base but

are almost entirely marked with

purple; hence the name snake's

head. It is possible to obtain

mixed bulbs where the colours

vary from yellow to red. I

recommend the *F. imperialis*

Aurora, which has orangy-

yellow flowers, Lutea, which has

yellow flowers, and Rubra with

orange-red flowers. These bulbs

will cost in excess of £1 each.

Fritillaria meleagris has

grass-like foliage growing up

the stem but stopping below

the bell-shaped flowers, which

are produced in pairs. The

flowers have a white base but

are almost entirely marked with

purple; hence the name snake's

head. It is possible to obtain

mixed bulbs where the colours

vary from yellow to red. I

recommend the *F. imperialis*

Aurora, which has orangy-

yellow flowers, Lutea, which has

yellow flowers, and Rubra with

orange-red flowers. These bulbs

will cost in excess of £1 each.

Fritillaria meleagris has

grass-like foliage growing up

the stem but stopping below

the bell-shaped flowers, which

are produced in pairs. The

flowers have a white base but

are almost entirely marked with

purple; hence the name snake's

head. It is possible to obtain

mixed bulbs where the colours

vary from yellow to red. I

recommend the *F. imperialis*

Aurora, which has orangy-

yellow flowers, Lutea, which has

yellow flowers, and Rubra with

orange-red flowers. These bulbs

will cost in excess of £1 each.

Fritillaria meleagris has

grass-like foliage growing up

the stem but stopping below

the bell-shaped flowers, which

are produced in pairs. The

flowers have a white base but

are almost entirely marked with

purple; hence the name snake's

head. It is possible to obtain

mixed bulbs where the colours

vary from yellow to red. I

recommend the *F. imperialis*

Aurora, which has orangy-

yellow flowers, Lutea, which has

yellow flowers, and Rubra with

orange-red flowers. These bulbs

will cost in excess of £1 each.

Fritillaria meleagris has

grass-like foliage growing up

the stem but stopping below

the bell-shaped flowers, which

are produced in pairs. The

flowers have a white base but

are almost entirely marked with

purple; hence the name snake's

head. It is possible to obtain

mixed bulbs where the colours

vary from yellow to red. I

recommend the *F. imperialis*

Aurora, which has orangy-

yellow flowers, Lutea, which has

<p

Fun and fantasy in the vagaries of a desert freak

Professor Reyner Banham, the architectural historian, who shares his time between the Universities of London and California, here seen wearing another Stetson, proves to be a desert addict: desert freak in fact.

He writes in a racy modern sci-fi, high-tech larded idiom which I find refreshingly shocking and highly infectious. His talk is of numbered Interstate black-top highways, cut-offs and sand traps. His navigational information is vague, and combined with dream-quality place names, like Sleeping Ute Mountain, Rimmy Jim's, Zayzx (pron. Zyezx) and Hovenweep, builds up his desert freak's mystique.

The Mojave seems to out-gut all American deserts and Banham's descriptions are fantastically splendid. As a trained observer, interested almost as much in human detritus as natural phenomena, he has all his senses at hair-trigger alertness, and his eagerness to share his enthusiasms is warming.

As a boy Banham played cowboys and Indians on the wilder parts of Household Heath (Old Chrome Country), then graduated to the writings of Charles Doughty and T. E. Lawrence.

The professor is no mean wordman. In his description of the solar telescope on Kit's Peak - the last word in high-tech - he speaks of a device which lays out the sun's face flat on a table and enables those who will "to haruspice next year's weather or serv (desert) the ultimate substance of the universe".

There are not many people about in the desert. Banham mentions the loner who lived in three culverts under the Tipton Road and became known as the Tipton Troll; and the elderly lady seen wearing a flowered dress burning up the black-top, on a sit-up-and-beg bicycle miles from anywhere. Could it have been Miss Jourdain or Miss Moberly?

First published in 1958.

Scenes in America Deserts by Reyner Banham (Thames and Hudson, £4.95). *A Person from England* by Fitzroy Maclean (Century Publishing, £4.95). *Perseus in the Wind* by Freya Stark (Century Publishing £4.95).

Fitzroy Maclean's account of adventure and intrigue on both sides in the Great Game will pleasantly instruct those whose reading on the subject ended with *Kim*. Maclean is at his best when recounting his own adventures.

In spite of its romantic cover picture, *Perseus in the Wind* (first published 1948) is not really a travel book. Freya Stark ponders such things as love, death, happiness and sorrow, with many quotes and a few anecdotes about her wanderings.

Conran Goulden

Giant steps along the historical road

There is no Gibbon but Gibbon and Gibbon is his prophet. He left six unfinished and overlengthy drafts of his memoirs when he died. The *Autobiography* still circulating in *Everyman* and *World's Classics* is the abbreviated and bowdlerized version that Gibbon's friend, Lord Sheffield, hurriedly put together immediately after Gibbon's death.

This is the first time that a fuller, and carefully edited and annotated version has been available to the public. It gives in Gibbon's own words the final account that he was working towards: a minor masterpiece of eighteenth-century biography, and a fascinating commentary on the creation of that greatest English historical masterpiece, *The Decline and Fall*.

Gibbonites have been restored. Delicacy led Lord Sheffield to make such changes as "cultivation" for "manure", "Gallie phrenzy" for "the

Philip Howard

French disease", and "petty circumstances and period of my first publication" for "loss of my literary maidenhead". Error made him read "taste" coupled with Virgil's irreverence as a reason for the "lame and impotent conclusion" of *Aeneid* 17: it is quite clear in draft C in Gibbon's beautiful hand that he wrote "haste".

Betty Radice, editor of the Penguin Classics, has assembled the definitive *Memoirs*, with notes and an introduction of a scholarship and wit that would have gratified Gibbon himself. It is an unforgettable portrait of our intellectual giant, who saw himself, and his life and work, with as clear an eye as he saw the long march of history.

Philip Howard

they earned their medals? And, on a different level, why do French women use the phrase "the English have arrived" when referring to menstruation?



Wild things: Reyner Banham in the lonely expanse of Siliwan Lake, California, and The Mittens in Monument Valley, Utah

No man's land in the war of the sexes

Anyone who is going to write about "Men and Women - How Different are They?" needs to have something specific to say - or something startling. John Nicholson does not really have either. He adopts the tone of a kindly old woman who has listened to a lot of children arguing about something and is now going to sort it out fairly, once and for all. The question is whether male dominance is an inevitable consequence of a difference in attitudes which makes the sexes behave differently.

On the first page he explains that men and women may have different sorts of genital tracts, but it does not matter because they can be changed by surgery. He then considers various aspects of the difference between the sexes. Are men and women different in physique, in intellect? Do they approach other people differently or have different ambitions? How different are they in their sexuality or their

Men and Women by John Nicholson (Oxford University Press, £2.50)

assertiveness? In each section the conclusion is that there are differences but they cannot be proved absolute; in most cases they are culturally imposed. The arguments are graciously, sometimes wittily, presented, although the literary references are often more distractingly illuminating. George Bernard Shaw's comment that "of the two lots, the woman's lot of perpetual motherhood and the man's of perpetual babyhood, I prefer the man's", or Rebecca West's that "the main difference between men and women is that men are lunatics and women idiots", so not help much.

There are occasional tantalizing bits of information. What, for instance, lay behind the Russians' revelation, after the 1964 Olympic Games, that no fewer than 10 of their 26 female champions were pregnant when

Two nations delight in a slanging match

Harrap's Slang Dictionary, English-French/French-English by Georgesette A. Marks and Charles B. Johnson, completely revised and edited by Jane Pratt (Harrap, £3.95). A favourite: in French I especially like *andouille à col roule*, which I won't translate.

More seriously, the book does confirm one's impression that English is much the richer language in daily idioms and colloquialisms in polite usage, while French is the more prolific in the racy, spicy argot of the student, bohemian, and working-class sub-cultures. French, more than English, is two separate languages: the "received" French of the *lycée*, *Larousse* and *Le Monde*, and the anti-French of the bistro, barracks room and school latrine.

Countless common English colloquialisms have no French equivalent (e.g. "to know which side your bread is buttered"); much rarer are those French phrases with no English counterpart (e.g. *chercher midi à 14 heures* to create difficulties needlessly). Some colloquial expressions, usually those based on rural tradition, are remarkably similar in the two languages - *brûler la chandelle par les deux bouts*, *le jeu n'en vaut pas la chandelle* and *être dans la parade* (a bread-and-milk soup) all translate literally. Other phrases are quite different: "pull someone's leg" is *monter un bateau à quelqu'un*.

My only serious complaint with this beguiling book is that the authors, in their eager search for matching phrases, have made some odd slips - "Step up the pace" cannot be translated by *allonger la saucisse*, which means "pad out a book"; and *balancer le manche après la cognée* does not mean "throw out the baby with the bath water" but "give up in despair" - hardly the same. Such mistakes really make one want to throw the handle after the axehead; they are *conneries*, nay *bouilles*, nay *couillonnades*. But apart from this, Jane Pratt has done a good job with the Marks/Johnson original. *Chapeau!*

Anne Barnes

John Ardagh

PREVIEW Theatre

Measuring success in the provinces

Measure for Measure arrives at the Barbican this week to open the Royal Shakespeare Company's third season. It comes by way of Newcastle upon Tyne after its production at Stratford last year, and Adrian Noble, its director, believes it is the better for its travels.

The production has increased markedly in confidence, and is now in an extremely fit state as a result of Newcastle's. Noble says. He is enthusiastic about the benefits of the company's annual visit there, partly because of the excellent acoustics and partly because of the "very honest" audience.

The play probably needs all it can get: it is recognized as one of Shakespeare's more difficult works: "It refuses to answer all the questions it poses, and it is not a comfortable play. It asks distinctly awkward questions about politics, law, sexuality and religion."

Because of its difficulties, it comes in and out of fashion. "Until the last act it can be a tragedy, but then it does a back flip. It spans between scenes of great tragic propensity juxtaposed with broad low comedy, which sometimes disconcerts the critics, but not the audience, and for all its difficulties it is wonderful in performance", Noble says.

He found the audience's response at Newcastle most refreshing. They laughed more than the Stratford audience, not because they were not taking the production seriously but because they saw the nonsense in some of the potentially tragic situations. "They are very well aware there of the twentieth century malaise of corruption and look honestly at the world."

The acoustics of the theatre enabled the cast to speak the lines in an almost conversational tone if they wished, a choice not available to them at Stratford, and thus to look at the text anew. "Coming back to the play after a few months we found new ideas, and were able to take advantage because at Stratford I had been determined to keep options open and not close down each scene for ever", Noble explains.

The play, in which the Duke of Vienna leaves the government of the city to Angelo, offers choices between the liberal rule of the former and the tyranny of the latter. It asks whether you should sacrifice something you believe in to save someone's life; it asks where the security of the state ends and mercy begins; it discusses liberty under the law, the rights of the state and the right to privacy.

They are questions which are being asked today, but Noble does not try to hammer the message too hard by having the cast in modern dress, for example. "That would be treating the audience as stupid." He has, however, moved the production from a Jacobean setting to the eighteenth century.

That was the age of enlightenment, the beginning of political idealism and a time of great political debate. It was also an age which saw capital punishment at its height, a juxtaposition which fits the conflicts in *Measure for Measure*.

In Noble's production Daniel Massey plays the Duke and

David Schofield - last seen on the London stage in 1980

playing the hideously deformed Merrick in *The Elephant Man* - as Angelo. Juliet Stevenson plays Isabella, forced to choose between her honour and her brother's life. She recently won Drama magazine's best actress

award for her interpretation of the part. Peggy Mount is the outrageously bejewelled Mistress Overdone.



Dark comedy: Daniel Massey in the RSC's Barbican opener, *Measure for Measure*.

David Schofield - last seen on the London stage in 1980

playing the hideously deformed Merrick in *The Elephant Man* - as Angelo. Juliet Stevenson plays Isabella, forced to choose between her honour and her brother's life. She recently won Drama magazine's best actress

award for her interpretation of the part. Peggy Mount is the outrageously bejewelled Mistress Overdone.

Christopher Warman

Measure for Measure, Barbican (628 8795). Opens Tues at 7pm. Thereafter in repertory.

Christopher Masters. Precedes a national tour.

LEEDS: Playhouse (0532 442111).

Alice by Richard Scott and Anthony Phillips. Final

performances today at 3pm and 7.30pm.

Passion Play by Peter Nichols. Thurs at 7.30pm. Until May 12. Mon and Tues at 8pm. Wed at 7.30pm.

Award-winning "adult comedy" now in the West End again.

STRATFORD: Royal Shakespeare

Theatre (01522 562262). The

Merchant of Venice. Wed at 7.30pm, Thurs at 1.30pm and 7.30pm. In repertory.

Norman Ashely leads in

Ayckbourn's comedy. Errors on a

judgmental note. The book is on

stage on photo (not in a water-tank

as at the National Theatre). David Roper, Geraldine Gardner, directed

Christopher Masters. Precedes a

national tour.

JOHN HOYLAND

Castlegate Gallery, 5 Campfield

Avenue Arcade, off Deansgate, Manchester (061 832 8034).

Until May 22. Thurs at 7.30pm.

A chance to see works done by

Hoyland since his retrospective at the Serpentine in 1979, this time in the setting of a brand new gallery.

A CIRCLE: PORTRAITS AND

SELF-PORTRAITS

Murborough Graphics, 39 Old

Bond Street, London W1 (0289

5161). Until May 12. Mon-Fri

10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-12.30pm

7.30pm, Sun 1.30pm and 7.30pm.

A chance to see works done by

Hoyland since his retrospective at

the Serpentine in 1979, this time in

the setting of a brand new gallery.

ANTHONY CARO

Serpentine Gallery, Kensington

Gardens, London W2 (080 5075).

Until May 28, Mon-Fri 10am-5pm,

Sat and Sun 10am-7pm.

In what might be called a partial

retrospective, this tribute to one of

Britain's leading middle-generation

sculptors skips the development

section and the welded-steel

abstractions which first brought

Caro before the public in the 1960s.

It begins instead 15 years ago with

the works of his maturity. No

revelations, but clear evidence of

why Caro is where he is today.

ANTHONY CARO

Serpentine Gallery, Kensington

Gardens, London W2 (080 5075).

Until May 28, Mon-Fri 10am-5pm,

Sat and Sun 10am-7pm.

In what might be called a partial

retrospective, this tribute to one of

Britain's leading middle-generation

sculptors skips the development

section and the welded-steel

abstractions which first brought

Caro before the public in the 1960s.

It begins instead 15 years ago with

the works of his

All at sea with Fellini and a rhinoceros

"I speak - I narrate", mutters Freddie Jones in tones of exquisite bemusement, "but just what am I narrating?" It is a pertinent question, for he plays the major role in *And the Ship Sails On*, Federico Fellini's latest film where bizarre spectacle outdistances specific meaning by several nautical miles.

What we see, at least, remains clear. A luxurious ocean liner, called *Gloria N* sails across the Bay of Naples in the summer of 1914 with a glittering company of opera singers, musicians, aristocrats, politicians, and European nobility - plus one slumbering rhinoceros, smelling out the hold. Except for the rhino, bound for a zoo, all are heading for the maritime funeral of a legendary opera star; arrangements are complicated by the arrival on board of Serbo-Croatian refugees and the looming presence of an Austro-Hungarian battleship.

The voyage takes place entirely in the Cinecittà studios, Rome, across a sea of cellophane 1,000ft wide. British players dominate a large cast



There she goes: Excited passengers catch a glimpse of the rhino in Fellini's bizarre saga

chosen for their relative unfamiliarity.

Inevitably, performers shared the confusion voiced by Freddie Jones's character (a tipsy journalist endeavouring to keep track of the ship's celebrities). The script changed before their very eyes, and the purposes of their actions were determinedly kept hidden; to add to the fun, shooting was conducted in a

total of five languages. (The version we have before us is principally in English, dubbed in Rome by Michael Hodges, director of *Flash Gordon*.) After 14 frenzied weeks, Fellini's voyage was in the can, leaving a rush of post-production work before the film's premiere at the Venice festival last September.

This strange creation began

life in 1979 as a sketchy story

about the causes of the First World War, committed to paper simply to secure a production advance. By the time \$800,000 had been found (from various companies in Italy and France, including Italian television), the original design had faded and Fellini's idiosyncratic worldview surged forward. "I wanted to show a colourful and contented era when the individ-

ual was significant", he said, "a time when people were extraordinarily inhibited by forces of nature, by all the elements of earth, sea, and sky".

Yet for all these elements to be real for Fellini, they have to be artificial, soaked in magic hence the cellophane sea, the painted sky, and the other extraordinary sights built over eight stages at the Cinecittà studios. Freddie Jones, who ends the film perched in a lifeboat with the rhinoceros, found the experience baffling but bracing: "Working with Fellini", he explained during production, "is a bit like swimming on one leg in a force nine gale". Fellow actor Peter Cellier preferred a comparison the director himself would surely relish: "Federico makes us feel as if we're back in the womb, floating in amniotic fluid."

Geoff Brown

And the Ship Sails On (cert PG) opens in London on Thurs at the Academy cinema, Oxford Street, London W1 (01 297 2981).



Down to earth: Joseph, Mary and Jesus in Pasolini's The Gospel According to St Matthew

THE BIG CHILL (15)

Screen, Leicester Square (439 4470)

Screen on the Green (226 3520)

Former fellow students in the 1960s gather at a funeral and survey the effects of time. A comic collage of human behaviour, slightly shallow but neat, vivid ensemble playing (Tom Berenger, William Hurt, Kevin Kline). The second film of writer-director Lawrence Kasdan, previously acclaimed for *Body Heat*.

CARMEN (15)

Curzon (089 3737/79)

Carlos Saura's second collaboration with dancer Antonio Gades and his troupe. Rehearsals for a flamenco-style *Carmen* ballet are interwoven with a weak story of jealous love.

THE DRESSER (PG)

Odeon, Hamptons (039 2738)

Proficient screen treatment of Ronald Harwood's stage hit about an actor-manager and his dresser struggling through *King Lear*, despite Hitler's bombs, fractious actors, and crumbling health. The backstage atmosphere is usefully enlarged; Albert Finney and Tom Courtenay play with great theatrical panache. Directed by Peter Yates.

GREYSTOKE: THE LEGEND OF TARZAN (PG)

ABC Bayswater (223 4149)

ABC Edgware Road (713 5901)

ABC Finchley Road (702 2636)

West End (093 0791) and on national release

The first film directed by Hugh Hudson since his much-praised *Chariots of Fire* comes in the last screen appearance of Sir Ralph Richardson. A modest and interesting treatment of the original Tarzan novel larks somewhere inside this wayward spectacular. Hudson never quite drags it out, though there is always something to watch, from the simian special effects to Sir Ralph's performance.

EDUCATING RITA (PG)

Classic Oxford Street (536 0310)

Odeon Kensington (602 6644)

Royal Charing Cross Road (930 6915)

Michael Caine and Julie Walters in Lewis Gilbert's award-winning film adapted from the stage play by Wyll Russell.

FANNY AND ALEXANDER (15)

Camden Plaza (485 2443)

Ingmar Bergman's Oscar-winning evocation of life, joys and terrors, staged with exceptional opulence, beauty and lightness of touch. It was judged the best foreign-language picture, with awards for its best achievements in sound and art direction.

LADY AND THE TRAMP (U)

Cinecitta Panton Street (330 9772)

Classic Tottenham Court Road (611 6148)

Odeon Kensington (602 8644)

Studio Oxford Circus (437 3300)

Revival of the Disney studio's first Cinemascope cartoon feature, a slender tale about a pedigree spaniel's romantic affair with a mongrel, originally released in 1955. The sweet-toothed should find it agreeable.

THE LEOPARD (PG)

Gate Mayfair (493 0791)

After 20 years, Luchino Visconti's beleaguered *Leopard* changes its spots and emerges uncut, with Italian dialogue and superior colour. A magnificent distillation of Giuseppe di Lampedusa's novel about nineteenth-century Italy.

LIANNA (18)

Screen on Baker Street (935 2772)

A married woman drifts into a lesbian relationship with her night-school teacher - a situation presented by American writer-director John Sayles with tact, wit and clever use of modest resources. Marvelous lead performances from Linda Griffiths, Jane Halloran and Jon DeVries.

Critics' choice

NEVER CRY WOLF (PG)

Classic Haymarket (639 1527)

An ill-equipped government biologist, assigned to study Arctic wolves, becomes sucked into the mysterious wonder of life in the raw. As indeed does the highly appealing second feature by Carroll Ballard, director of *The Black Stallion*, mixing wild-life adventure and quirky comedy with a poetic contemplation of man and nature. Charles Martin Smith gives an amusing lead performance; the wolves are good, too.

THE RIGHT STUFF (15)

Warner West End (439 0791)

Tom Wolfe's novel about America's space pioneers, brought to the screen as a sumptuous, three-hour epic. The style veers between irreverent comedy and worshipful, patriotic drama; compulsive viewing with sharp insights into space-race ballyhoo. If it won a clutch of Oscars, including those

for the best original score and the best achievement in film editing.

RUMBLE FISH (18)

Gate Bloomsbury (637 1177/6402)

Francis Coppola's latest film defies all categories: a black and white fantasy about youthful hopes and alienation, shot with determined poise and meshed with a riveting rhythmic score by Stewart Copeland (from the rock group The Police). Featured players Matt Dillon and Mickey Rourke effortlessly merge into the crazy fabric of shadows, scudding clouds and surreal compositions. Based on a novel by S. E. Hinton.

SILKWOOD (15)

Odeon Leicester Square (930 6111)

The disturbing story of nuclear plant employee Karen Silkwood, dubbed by some "the first nuclear martyr" after her death in a mysterious car accident. Mike Nichols, returning to film after eight years, directs with modesty and subtlety; Meryl Streep gets off her high horse and gives an enjoyable life to a prickly, lower-class heroine. With Kurt Russell, Cher, Craig T. Nelson.

STREAMERS (18)

Gate Notting Hill (221 0220/727 5750) until Apr 25

Robert Altman's latest film continues his new love affair with the theatre. David Rabe's stark play about young, green soldiers waiting for shipment to Vietnam is simply but pungently brought to the screen with vivid performances and an acute sense of emotional claustrophobia.

VERTIGO (PG)

Classic Chelsea (352 5096)

Electric Screen (formerly Electric, Portobello Road) (229 3694)

Plaza Piccadilly Circus (437 1234)

Long-awaited revival of Hitchcock's 1958 thriller, in which James Stewart's ex-detective with a fear of heights is obsessed and confused by Kim Novak. Sleek and preposterous on the surface, with turbulent emotions bubbling underneath.

The information in this column was correct at the time of going to press. Late changes are often made and it is advisable to check using the telephone numbers given.

TO BE OR NOT TO BE (PG)

Cinecitta Panton Street (530 0631)

Classic Chelsea (352 5096)

Odeon Kensington (602 6644)

Studio Oxford Circus (437 3300)

Ernst Lubitsch's acerbic comedy wartime classic about Polish actors outwitting Nazi minions, ingeniously remade as a vehicle for Mel Brooks and his wife Anne Bancroft. The original's brilliant structure survives unaltered (along with much dialogue).

SWANN IN LOVE (18)

Lumière, St Martin's Lane (935 0691)

Volker Schlöndorff's film merely dips into Proust's *A la recherche du temps perdu*, but therein lies its success. The episode of Swann's infatuation with the beautiful but dubious Odette is conveyed with

lucidity, calm, exquisite photography (Sven Nykvist) and a central performance from Jeremy Irons that expertly captures the melancholic elegance of Proust's bittersweet Jew. Ornella Muti co-stars with splendid support from Alain Delon as Baron de Charlus.

TENDER MERCIES (PG)

Classic Oxford Street (636 0310)

Quietly released in 1983, Bruce Beresford's atmospheric drama returns to London boasting two Oscar. Robert Duvall won the award for his actor for his portrayal of a former country-and-western singer coming to terms with himself and his past; the film was also judged to have the best screenplay written directly for the screen.

TO BE OR NOT TO BE (PG)

Cinecitta Panton Street (530 0631)

Classic Chelsea (352 5096)

Electric Screen (formerly Electric, Portobello Road) (229 3694)

Plaza Piccadilly Circus (437 1234)

Long-awaited revival of Hitchcock's 1958 thriller, in which James Stewart's ex-detective with a fear of heights is obsessed and confused by Kim Novak. Sleek and preposterous on the surface, with turbulent emotions bubbling underneath.

THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD (B2C)

Thurs, Academy (01 297 2981)

Stylishly directed by the man who made *Charade*, *North by Northwest* and *The Man Who Would Be King*, *The Greatest Story Ever Told* is a masterly achievement of the more remarkable given the symphonies of the director.

Pasolini was an avowed Marxist who had been arrested after a previous film for refusing to take the church. And yet he was able to separate the institution from the man and treat the life of Jesus with eloquence and understanding.

From this splendid nonsense it is an abrupt change of mood for *The Greatest Story Ever Told* (BBC2, Thurs, 7.30pm).

The integrity of the project was impeccable: five years in the planning, that fine Swedish actor Max von Sydow to play Jesus and directed by one of Hollywood's most admired craftsmen, George Stevens. Unfortunately, the liveliness of treatment which had been a characteristic of Stevens's early career had been gradually evaporating through films like *Shane* and *Giant* and was by now almost dried up. *The Greatest Story Ever Told* lasts nearly four hours and seems even longer; the greatest story

becomes the most boring movie.

It will be a relief on Good Friday to turn to Pier Paolo Pasolini's *The Gospel According to St Matthew* (1964).

Also recommended: *Father of the Bride* (1950); *Vincente Minnelli's nicely handled comedy in which Spencer Tracy and Joan Bennett contemplate the marriage of their daughter (Elizabeth Taylor) (BBC1, tomorrow, 7.35-7.55pm).*

Roman Holiday (1953); *Romance in Rome* between a princess (Audrey Hepburn) and a newspaperman (Gregory Peck) given a light touch by director William Wyler (BBC2, tomorrow, 3.25-5.20pm).

The Taking of Pelham 123 (1974); *A Terrible thriller about the hijacking of a New York subway train, with Walter Matthau, Robert Shaw and Martin Balsam (BBC1, Tues, 7.30pm-midnight).*

Greystoke: The Legend of the Gorilla (1984); *Stylishly directed by Lindsay Anderson's much discussed black comedy which uses a strike-bound hospital as a metaphor for contemporary Britain (Channel 4, Tues, 8.11-8.55pm).*

A Man Alone (1955); *Interesting and unusual Western directed by its star, Ray Milland (BBC2, Wed 5.40-7.15pm).*

The Man in Grey (1943); *The classic Gainsborough melodrama that helped to make Margaret Lockwood and James Mason the most popular British stars of the period (Channel 4, Fri, 2.50-4.30pm).*

Kes (1969); *Ray Hines's novel about a boy and his pet kestrel, directed with his television-style realism by Ken Loach (BBC2, Fri, 6.05-7.55pm).*

First British television showing.

PREVIEW Music

Concerts

Haydn's Op 50 No 1 and Dvorák's Op 96 "The American".

Tomorrow, 7.30pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall, London SW1 (01 709 3789)

The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic provides a rare chance of hearing Hugh Wood's fine Symphony, John Lili solos in Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No 1, and the overture is Mozart's for *The Magic Flute*. Brian Wright conducts.

Entertainments

MEASURE FOR MEASURE



"Magnificent... Daniel Massey's compelling performance as the Duke" *Mall on Sunday*

"Juliet Stevenson's remarkable performance... this is for and away the best Isabella I have seen" *Financial Times*

JULIET STEVENSON - BEST ACTRESS
ANTHONY O'DONNELL -
MOST PROMISING NEWCOMER

1983 Tony Award

1983 Drama Desk Award

1983 Outer Critics Circle Award

1983 Drama League Award

1983 Drama Desk Award

1983 Drama League Award

RSC
BARBICAN
01-628 8795
01-638 8891

THEATRES

GARRICK CC S 01 851 4601 11pm
1200 HYSTERIC YEAR, LONGEST
HUMOUROUS STRETCH IN THE WORLD
NO SEX, PLEA OF
WERE BRITISH

2 HOLPS NON STOP LAUGHTR
Directed by Alan Duff
Group Sales 01-638 8891 01-638 0123
OVER 5,000 FANTASTIC PERFS

GLOBE 01-437 1592
"Theatre Live from London's West End
COMEDY OF THE YEAR
Society of West End Theatre Award
DAILY PULLS IT OFF"

Directed by Dennis Deacon
"FELICITY" 01-437 1592
"IF YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE A BABY, DON'T
BE SURPRISED IF IT'S A GIRL" 01-437 1592
"THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM" 01-437 1592

HAMPTON THEATRE 01-732 7222
Directed by Paul Taylor in KINGDOM OF
BEASTS, with Terence Williams
Premiere April 13 at 8pm

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL 920
9823 Group Sales 01-930 6123

REDRAVE THEATRE HILL 01-930 6123
CHRISTOPHER NEVE IN

THE ASPEN PAPERS
Adapted by Michael Redgrave
"An evening to remember" Sunday

Even. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, Wed 2.30pm
Sat 3.00pm FOR A LIMITED SEASON

HENRY FORD'S HAMMARK 01-930 6123

4025 Group Sales 930 6123
WEST SIDE STORY

HONG KONG 01-916 9611 INNES
IN NEED OF INTERVALS Dur
7 Show 8.00pm

LA VIE ROSE cc Gi Windfuhr
MUSICAL CABARET SHOWBAR

GLAMOROUS INTERNATIONAL
FLOORSHOW

PARKS AFTER DARK
Featuring Eric's own musical
fabulous girls

Sensational attractions plus great acts from the
world of showbusiness

COCK TALES & DANCING
Dinner available throughout the
evening. Sat 8pm, Sun 7pm, 9pm
Tues, Fri & Sat. One show Sat

only.

EDMOND PALLADIUM 01-7375

6pm-11pm. Wed 7.30pm, Sat 8.30pm

FIRST EVER STAGE PRODUCTION

TONY STEELE IN

SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

IN THE ROYAL CASTLE

"SINGIN' IN THE RAIN HAS
MILITARY BACK TO THE WEST END
WITH A BANG" 01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

01-437 1592

THEATRE OF THE HOOT AND A SCREAM

Today

BADMINTON HORSE TRIALS: Today is the day-long endurance test, from 11am to 5.30pm. Tomorrow morning is devoted to the final horse examination and the jumping test. In the afternoon the Queen watches the entries of competitors and more jumping before presenting the Whitbread Trophy to the winner. Badminton, Avon (04521 272).

TOP GYMNASTS: The fifteenth annual Championships All International Gymnastics Competition, sponsored by the *Daily Mirror*, provides an opportunity to see a line-up of Olympic contenders. The favourite is Boriana Stoyanova from Bulgaria, holder of the world title for the vault, but she faces strong competition from Elena Brazhnikova from the Soviet Union and Feng Wen of China. The British gymnasts to watch are Hayley Price and Andrew Morris. Wembley Arena, Wembley, Middlesex (082 1234) at 2pm. Tickets £3.50-£5.

WEMBLEY BECKONS: In the FA Cup semi-finals Watford, the favourites, play Plymouth Argyle at Villa Park while Southampton take on Everton at Highbury to decide who will meet in the final at Wembley on May 19. Highlights on BBC1 tonight, 9.55-10.45pm and on ITV tomorrow, 1.15-2pm.

COURTLY PLEASURES: The contents of Yotes Court, near Maidstone, a handsome Commonwealth house, are on view today, in preparation for a sale on May 6. Good Georgian furniture is the strong suit but carpets, curtains, lawn mowers and even flower pots are also included. Catalogue from Christie's, South Kensington, London SW7 (081 2231) or Yotes Court (0622 81245). Sale on Mon at noon.

Tomorrow

PASSION PLAY FOR ST KATHARINE'S: Organized by All Hallows-by-the-Tower, the local parish church, this staging of the life of Christ and his journey to the cross involves members of the local community in an open-air production which is in modern English and modern dress. St Katharine's Dock, London E1, by Tower Bridge, at 7.15pm.

Monday

IVO MOSLEY CERAMICS: Tables, vases, dishes, lights, bowls and boxes are among more than 400 pieces made by Ivo Mosley during the past four years, during which time he has developed a way of advancing his own designs by use of porcelain techniques. All exhibits are for sale, starting at £10. Five Dials Gallery, 33 Shelton Street, London WC2 (033 9701). Until April 21, daily, 10am-7pm. Free.

ORIENTAL MINIATURES: Sotheby's begins its week of Islamic art sales with one of fine Oriental manuscripts and miniatures. There are two exceptional seventeenth-century Mughal miniatures from a royal album and the earliest extant manuscript treatise on falconry, dated 1223 and attributed to the court falconer of the Abbasi Caliph al-Mahdi. Sotheby's, 34-35 New Bond Street, London W1 (043 8080) at 11am and 2.30pm.

FIFTIES ART: The 1950s have at last arrived as a collecting period with the first specialist sale of "Post-War Design" at Christie's. The catalogue is brimming with the work of Italian designers, with brightly coloured glass, metal and plastic furniture and even an adding machine, an electric fan and an espresso coffee pot. Christie's, 8 King Street, London SW1 at 6.30pm.

SEVEN DAYS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD: Tom Fleming presents the first of seven films for Holy Week. This one recalls the young Galilean prophet who came to the spring festival at Jerusalem with some 300,000 other pilgrims. The series



Pigheaded: Wendy Morgan as Minimus and Barrie Rutter (Napoleon) in Peter Hall's adaptation of George Orwell's *Animal Farm*, the novel of a "revolution that went wrong" (see Tuesday)

is on BBC1, Mon-Thurs, 12.20pm with late night repeats; Fri, 10.55am, repeated at 10.50pm.

THE MASTER OF BALLANTRAE: Robert Louis Stevenson's adventure novel, set in the eighteenth century, receives a three-part television dramatization with a star-studded cast: John Gielgud, Michael York, Richard Thomas and Timothy Dalton. ITV, part 1 tonight 9-10pm; parts 2 and 3 tomorrow, 9.10 and 10.30-11.30pm.

DOWN AND OUT IN PARIS AND LONDON: The George Orwell Estate has now given permission for the Gate Theatre Company to present both halves of this work (Part 1 was seen in 1979) as its fifth anniversary production. Lou Stein directs his own adaptation. Cast, headed by Anthony Higgins, from the 1979 production. Gate Theatre Club at the Latchmere, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm (7pm on April 24).

THE NAPOLEON OF NOTTING HILL: Musical adaptation of G. K. Chesterton's prophetic novel, first published in 1904 and set in 1984. The plot has the people of Notting Hill establishing an independent state. Rodney Archer and Paul Jones have changed the sex of the hero, and added songs by Chuck Mallett and David Head. Valerie Colgan directs this Old Vic Youth Theatre production, using amateur performers from all over London. Scheduled for presentation at the Old Vic in September. Jeanetta Cochrane Theatre, Theobalds Road, London WC1 (242 7040). Opens today at 7.30pm, until April 21, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm; matinée April 21 at 2.30pm.

Tuesday

INDIAN PAINTINGS: The vivid, pure hues of India are distilled in the pictures produced at the courts of Rajasthan, the Pahari Hills and the Deccan. Among the 40 paintings on show (all for sale, from £300) are seventeenth-century examples from Mewar and Malwa, romantic scenes from Kangra, and a

nineteenth-century scene from Jodhpur. *Tooth Paintings*, 33 Cork Street, London W1 (0171 774 1111). Mon-Fri, 9.30am-5.30pm.

CHURCHMAN'S LAMENT: The Bishop of Liverpool, the Right Rev David Sheppard, delivers the 1984 Dimbleby Lecture. Under the title "The Other Britain", he describes the poverty and unemployment of inner-city areas and laments the alienation between governors and governed. BBC1, 9.25-10.15pm.

CHRONICLE 200: The 200th edition of *Chronicle*, the BBC's programme on archaeology, provides the occasion for a dig into the corporation's own archives. Highlights from the last 18 years include the discovery of Roman coins in the sacred spring at Bath, the Sutton Hoo burial treasure from Suffolk and the raising of the Mary Rose. BBC2, 8-9pm.

THE COLLECTOR: Paul Raymond's Boulevard Theatre presents the Off Broadway Theatre Company's production of David Parker's adaptation of the story by John Fowles about a young man who kidnaps a girl with whom he is

obsessed. Janet Fielding, Jonathen Oliver, Jamie Jeffries, directed by Brian McDermott. Royal Court Theatre, Raymond Revue Bar, Walker Court, London W1 (0171 2661). Opens today at 7.30pm, following previews, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm.

ANIMAL FARM: Peter Hall directs his own adaptation of George Orwell's novel of a "revolution that went wrong". Gary Hesler as Snowball, Barrie Rutter as Napoleon, David Ryall as Squealer. Music by Richard Peaslee, lyrics by Adrian Mitchell. Cottesloe (028 2252). Previews today, Wed and Thurs at 7.30pm; Apr 21, 22 and 24 at 7.30pm. Opens April 25 at 7pm. In repertory.

NUMBER ONE: Michael Frayn's English adaptation of a new comedy by Jean Anouilh, with Leo McKern as a playwright whose family and friends are after his money. Jo Melli, Margaret Whiting, Peter Blythe, directed by Robert Chetwynd. Queens Theatre (734 1166). Previews today, Wed and Thurs at 8pm, Apr 21 at 5pm and 8.15pm, Apr 23 at 8pm (no perf April 20). Opens April 24 at 7pm, then Mon-Fri at 8pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.15pm; matinées Wed at 3pm.

GOOD MORNING BILL: Peter Clapham directs his adaptation of P. G. Wodehouse's comedy, a major revival which moves to the West End this Friday. Richard Hesler, Mary Tamm, Christopher Good, Wendy Allnutt, Ivan Beavis, Ascot Theatre, Croydon (088 8291). Opens today at 7.45pm, until April 28. Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 8pm and 8.15pm; matinées April 25 at 2.30pm, no perf on Good Friday.

PYGMALION: Peter O'Toole, Joyce Carey, Jack Watling, John Thaw, Barbara Murray and Jackie Stewart-Wood as Eliza, directed by Ray Cooney, in the pre-London run of this major revival of George Bernard Shaw's comedy which was the basis for *My Fair Lady*. Leicester Haymarket (0533 539797). Previews today at 7.30pm, opens Thurs at 7.30pm, until May 5, Mon-Thurs at 7.30pm, Fri at 8pm.

THE FIRST NUCLEAR MARTYR? Coinciding with the release of Mike Nichols's film about Karen Silkwood, the Panorama team up-



Mad about motorbikes: Bill Fruin and his wife Winifred (Thurs)

Out and About/Angling

Incidentally, don't forget the grease or the chairleg

I bought my first fishing kit at the kind of tackle shop Arthur Ransome might well have had in mind when he wrote his eulogy of the traditional shop in the essays which now make up the justly celebrated *Rod and Line* collection.

An angler, according to Ransome, had three sources of pleasure: rivers, lakes and tackle shops. The shop was a kind of wayside shrine where woe might be renewed and faith deepened. Once passed a pleasant hour or more, gossiping and mooting around the racks of rods. The owner, himself an angler, was a man of infinite wisdom.

It was just such a man who set me on the road to the Thames Water reservoirs one spring several years ago. Why he should have set up shop in a west London high street was never clear but that seems to be the way of tackle shops (like telephones, policemen and taxi drivers, they are never where you need them.)

Ransome would have been at home in my initiator's emporium, the "old 'ard 'op" seems out of character for a place graced with old-fashioned glass cases, stuffed fish and enamelled advertisements for long-extinct tackle firms. After cross-examination to discover how far the addiction had taken hold of me, I was allowed to leave with an inexpensive rod, a simple reel, a medium-priced line and a selection of flies. No one seemed to think I would find much use for a net. They were right.

This is the time of year when I begin to haunt such shops again. I may have sneaked in occasionally during the winter – just to look at a reel fitting or consider the possibility of a new line, you understand. No great expenditure, nothing substantial. April, however, is when anglers embark on the serious

business of checking the contents of the fishing bag and what the auction houses are pleased to call "angler's boxes".

A few weeks ago I saw a selection of equipment – old cigarette tins and the like – over the shoulder of a tatty farmer at a country sale. He ferreted through it before pronouncing snifflily that it was "a load of old rubbish". Not an angler, I think. You will not get far without a box of such items, ancient though they may be. Grease, sinking compound, forceps and so on. The angler's box often holds those extra bits that most fly fishermen eventually discover they need.

The books have told you about the great rod debate – carbon versus glass fibre versus split cane; they have discussed the merits of the shooting head and the virtues of the double taper, and given precise advice on how to cast. And at the end they have included a chapter on

solid chairleg of the type sold by do-it-yourself shops for screwing into plates under chairs and tables.

Such items are not common in tackle dealers, but floatant, grease and sinking compound are. Never venture out without them.

Floatant is used to keep dry flies sitting on the surface and prevent them getting waterlogged. I use both spray cans and the little jars into which flies can be dropped for total immersion. The spray is good for swift action or on large flies such as mayflies while the small bottles are better for very small fly patterns.

As for the chairleg, that is there to administer the final thump on the fish's head, thus killing it quickly and relatively painlessly. Ideally, it should have some metal to give it added weight. The technical name for such a club is a "stiletto".

I once bought a dainty little metal club which had been specially made for the task my honest shopkeeper told me to use a chairleg but in those days I thought I knew best. It proved totally ineffective. Now I use a

angler invests themselves with huge ones, worthy of salmon rather than the average 2lb rainbow trout. Unless you expect to meet a passing sturgeon or a 50lb carp try a light, telescopic net.

So there you are on the bank, incidentals at work or waiting to be used, and a drop of rain falls. Then another. The fish are rising and it is raining. For some reason it only rains very heavily on water you are fishing. It is one of those laws of fishing like the one about the bailiff who only arrives when you have reached your limit and have decided to sneak.

The only way to cope with the law of heavy rainfall is to buy a good waterproof. If you get a nylon coat or one made of any of the man-made fabrics, make sure the seams are sealed and avoid those with seams across the shoulders. I bought my own from a yachting shop after several narrow escapes from monsoons. They understand these little problems in the English Channel but not apparently on the Test.

However, the colours could be too strong to let you blend rustically into the banks, as the experts recommend. There are, of course, those highly fashionable waxed cotton country coats but they may be a little too expensive for an incidental. Try your tackle shop. It might have something cheaper.

Stewart Tendler

The poisons for flies and leaders cost between 50p and £1 for a jar or bottle but the dry-fly spray is now well over £1. Forceps are at least £2 but the marrow spoon should not cost much more than £1.50. Nets vary in cost but the average telescopic model is about £12 for an imported type. Nylon coats are up to £30 for the strong, thick version sold by sailing shops. The waxed cotton coats come in various styles starting at least £40 and rising to more than £60.

date its 1979 investigation into the woman who died in a car accident near Oklahoma City. She had worked in a laboratory at a nuclear plant and shortly before the accident had become seriously contaminated with plutonium, a highly toxic material. BBC2, 7.40-8.30pm.

Thursday

SUSSEX PICTURED: Paintings by Sussex artists or of Sussex scenes go on sale, including views of Bosham, Shoreham, Arundel Castle and Winchelsea. Sotheby's, Pulteney, West Sussex (07962 3831) at 10.30am.

CAPITAL PAINTING: Thirty-six City companies contribute to an exhibition of 125 paintings, ranging from the most traditional to the most modern (some of the companies are advised on their purchases by the Contemporary Art Society). The show is offered as a counterblast to *The City's Pictures* (a free exhibition downstairs). The Barbican Art Gallery, Barbican, London EC2 (0181 4141). Until June 10, Tues-Sat, 10am-7pm; Sun and public holidays, noon-5pm; open Easter Mon. Adults £1, concessionary tickets 50p.

TRANSPORTS OF DELIGHT: The finest fleet of vintage Nortons in the world will be sold among a collection of motor-cycles going back to 1903. The collection was amassed over 50 years by Bill Fruin, an Oxfordshire motor-cycle enthusiast who died last year aged 81. Star is a £5,000 Singer "bathchair".

MAUNDY MONEY: The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh attend the Maundy Service, held this year at Southwark Minster. Afterwards, the Queen distributes the Maundy Girls specially minted coins, to those who have served the church and community. Coverage on Radio 4, 10.40-11.45am.

AND THE SHIP SAILS ON: Federico Fellini's new film opens. See page 17.

Friday

DEVIZES TO WESTMINSTER BY CANOE: The annual race starts from Cough Lane Bridge, Devizes, with smaller crews leaving between 9 and 10am, and larger ones timing their departure to gain the full benefit of the ebb tide at Teddington. The first 54 miles are on the Kennet and Avon canal to Reading, followed by 7.5 miles on the Thames to London. About 100 crews are expected to cross the finishing line, opposite County Hall, just downstream of Westminster Bridge, early on Mon morning.

ST MATTHEW PASSION: This production of J. S. Bach's magnificent choral work, set in Lincoln Cathedral and illustrated with Old Master paintings, won a British Academy of Film and Television Arts award for Best Sound in 1979. Raymond Lippard conducts the BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra, the BBC Singers and the BBC Northern Singers in an English translation. Alan Titus sings the part of Christus with Jon Garrison, Sheila Armstrong, Ann Murray, John Elwes and James Morris.

BASICALLY BACH: Christopher Hogwood's festival includes concerts, free foyer music and film. Today the English Baroque Choir and Orchestra perform *St Matthew Passion*, sung in German, 5.30-6.30pm. Tomorrow the British Horn Festival concert at 11am includes Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No 1. The Academy of Ancient Music perform the *Mass in B minor* on April 22 at 5pm (tickets £2-£2.50) and an all-Bach programme on April 23 at 3pm (tickets £2-£2.50). *The Delary Gustav Leonhardt as J. S. Bach*, starring Gustav Leonhardt as J. S. Bach, is screened on April 22 in Cinema 2 at 2.15pm. Barbican Centre, London EC2 (0181 8891/628 6795).

Country Diary



No fish, please... we're Frinton

Graciousness, according to the brochure, is the quality which gives Frinton-on-Sea a unique place among the English holiday resorts. It is the town whither the Duke of Windsor repaired on several occasions during the Simpson divorce case of Ipswich. Exuding seaside gentility at its most forbidding, it has the advantage of a golf course at the western end of the esplanade as a *cordon sanitaire* between the front and the real world beyond.

Forewarned, no doubt, of the impending threat to its quintessential superiority from the brash development of Clacton, just a few puffs away along the Essex coast, Frinton drew the line on unwanted intrusion in the 1880s when the railway arrived. All public transport since then has been forced to terminate at the level-crossing at the far end of the town.

The explorer who is undeterred by this barrier to his progress will discover unusual rewards as he enters this Victorian paradise. Tree-lined residential avenues sweep elegantly down to the esplanade past a broad 50-acre strip of grass called the Greensward. Not only are whale and candyfloss stalls, kiss-me-quick hats and funfairs absent. There are no picnickers, as they are not permitted either. It is indeed a pleasant, uncluttered green where even the dogs look over their shoulders before breaking the by-laws.

One edifice alone on the Greensward breaks its fearful symmetry – a brick-built genuflexion to the needs of man the doors of which are well screened by shrubbery.

The penny one spends there is likely to be one's only outgoing along the front. For there is nothing else to be had – no pier to stroll along, not even a tea-stall. It might all drive a man to drink, were it not for the absence of a public house, for these are not allowed either.

But the views of the Conservative representative from Frinton, Mrs Elizabeth Rex, prevailed. She told me: "The feeling in Frinton is that it would be undesirable to sell fish to the promenade, and I supported the democratic wish of the people. It is nonsense to speak of snobbery. Frinton tends to be misunderstood and maligned. Frinton welcomes visitors and is a very friendly place."

Our correspondent would convey the views of the unhappy fisherman if it were not for the fact that like many a good Frintonian, the man has an ex-directory telephone number and declines to answer the door to callers.

Michael Horsnell

THE TIMES GUERNSEY GILET



THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Scargill an unlikely victim of nanny state

Any member of a pension fund, let alone a fund investment manager, will sympathize with members of the National Coal Board pension fund's management committee. They were obliged to cope with the presence of Messrs Arthur Scargill and Mick McGahey as intransigent union trustees, vetoing investments abroad or in competing forms of energy over a period when most sensible investors trying to balance their portfolios would have thought it foolhardy to stick to a British only policy or eschew the heavyweight oil sector.

But it would be as unwise to confuse the blocking antics of Mr Scargill with the proper role of employing trustees as to confuse the abolition of the Greater London Council with the effects of Mr Ken Livingstone.

Yesterday, in the High Court, Sir Robert Megarry ruled that the mineworkers' trustees would have to lift their embargo or risk being removed from the management committee as unfit. The judge agreed with the National Coal Board trustees that the restriction of investment was imprudent and therefore a breach of the duty under the trustee laws to do the best they could for the beneficiaries.

More significantly, he ruled that trustees had to put aside their personal interests and social/political views and act as "the ordinary prudent man". Since the investments of one pension fund would not make much impact on the economy and therefore could not alter the returns from British investment by boycotting the outside world, any benefits to the fund members were "far too speculative and remote" to count.

That, no doubt, is the law. Now that it has been tested, two implications shine out from the judgment.

Anyone investing his own money is free to adopt any investment policy he may choose, whether skewed by ethical, political or personally eccentric predilections. No Muslim can be obliged to invest in moneylenders, no pacifist in arms manufacturers, no Conservative in left-leaning newspapers. The individual has every right to prefer an investment in his local firm or a company employing his relatives to the judgment of the best brains of the City of London. Indeed, the Business Expansion Scheme encourages eccentric risks in new enterprises.

But once investment funds are pooled and institutionalized, then trustees, whether union representatives of trusted individuals, are unable to exercise such preferences, even if a majority of the beneficiaries concur, unless they are enshrined in a trust deed. In this sense, those becoming trustees are neutered. They are "temporally unsuited" according to the judge, unless they accept the plain man's view, in this case is probably synonymous with going along with professional financial advice.

That is at once a warning to many other trustees and a powerful case for individual investment and individual control over pension arrangements against the paternalistic institution.

The second, highly questionable implication, is that only the law and not the individual in a position of trust, can go against short-term market dictates.

In the mineworkers' case, the judge accepted that there was a strong case for legislation to restrict the flow of large investment funds abroad and to put the money to work in Britain. But trustees could not act on that except to campaign for a change in the law, or, presumably, the rules of the pension fund itself.

Leaving aside the case for restricting overseas investment, which is highly dubious, the judge is surely pointing to a nanny state in which investment managers pretend they are The Economic Man, chained to short-term financial gains, while any deeper judgement must be left to Government or its agents, such as the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Like other parts of the nanny state, that is comforting but dangerous.

It is surely against the spirit of the times. We want fewer Government rules and bureaucratic tribunals, fewer quangoes. We do not want a Securities and Exchange Commission. But the concomitant is that responsible individuals must do their own thinking, make their own judgments — in public — and stand up to the consequences. It is time this choice was faced.

Why Fed raised the discount rate

So was the Fed right to raise Cain and the discount rate, in the light of this week's US money supply figures? On the face of it, the decision looks to have been far too hasty. Latest money supply figures (for the week to April 2) reveal a drop in M1 of about \$5 billion, or roughly double market expectations. The fall brings the rate of expansion tumbling down to the bottom end of the Fed's allowable expansion rate. Well within the permissible range of \$531.4 billion to \$539.4 billion, the actual outturn is just \$533.2 billion. In addition, both the broader supplementary Ms, M2 and M3, are growing at highly acceptable annualized rates.

But the answer to the interest rate conundrum is that the Fed is watching the whole economy on rates, and the broader picture is a lot less reassuring than the aggregates suggest. Loan demand, for example, is still buoyant, according to figures issued by 10 leading New York banks, which show loans, leases and investments up by \$2.6 billion.

Output may be slowing, but not as quickly as expected: industrial output still jumped by 0.4 per cent in March, compared with hopes of a fall after strong gains of 1.4 per cent and 1 per cent in January and February respectively. Meanwhile, prices are rising. March producer prices increased by 0.5 per cent in March, faster than the market foresaw to give an annualized growth rate for the first quarter of 6 per cent.

The divergent movement of markets, as they digested the date, mirrored the equivocal nature of the statistics. But buoyant equities and slumping bonds suggest that American investors are veering, for the time being at least, towards more inflationary expectations.

Regulation time for accountants

For many years accountants and their fellow professionals have carried out their business unhindered by public interference protected by the technical mysteries of their trade and regulated by their own Star Chambers of internal discipline. The Secretary for Trade and Industry, Mr Norman Tebbit, is known to be training his guns on their restrictive practices and last night Mr Enoch Powell gave accountants in Wolverhampton the benefit of his powerful éloquence, in a sustained attack on the professions' curious lack of public accountability.

Sir Gordon Borrie, director general of the Office of Fair Trading, has been seeking to induce the accountancy profession to come out into the open since 1974 and in Mr Tebbit he has at last found the man to help him do it. Mr Tebbit will not stop at accountants. His interest is more wide-ranging. Already a successful attack on the solicitors' monopoly on conveyancing has been mounted.

The professions' protest that outsiders would not understand the complexities of their work was briskly disposed of by Mr Powell last night. And within the accountancy profession there are now too many internal wranglings for accountants to continue the argument that they can exist as a self-regulatory body.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Home loans rush begins

Building Societies are ready for an expected stronger-than-usual spring demand for home loans. Net monthly inflow of funds during March totalled £739m — down on February's £954m, but sufficient to meet present lending levels.

Lending is running at record levels of £1.835m being advanced in March and a further £2.33m promised to mortgage applicants in April.

• Schroders, the merchant banking, investment and life insurance group, has celebrated

a record £20.9m disclosed profit by awarding the chairman, the Earl of Airlie, a £42,000 pay rise taking his earnings to £168,000. • BL has seized a third of the new car market in the first 10 days of April. The Austin/MG Metro remained Britain's best selling car and the Maestro was in second place after holding sixth place in March.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

• A Los Angeles judge has blocked a merger of the record businesses of Warner Communications and Polygram Records.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

BP shares surge to record

By Michael Clark

British Petroleum remained inscrutable yesterday as rumours swirled around the stock market that the group had struck it rich in the South China Sea.

The shares surged to a record level with a 14p rise to 505p as investors on both sides of the Atlantic piled into the shares. BP has the biggest interest of any of the leading independents in the China Sea and has invested heavily. The rumours coincided with the news that a joint venture between Esso and Shell had discovered evidence of oil during their first test bore. Shell said the results will take several weeks to analyse and drilling will continue.

But a spokesman for BP last night denied the suggestions: "The rumours are completely without foundation. Drilling will not be completed for another few weeks," he said.

Shell greeted the news of its progress with a rise of 15p to

646p, but the rest of the oil sector showed only scattered improvements with prices closing below their best levels of the day.

Shares of Hanson Trust closed 2p higher at 199p, after 200p as one leading firm of

Promotions House, the travel related promotions group, confirmed yesterday it has sold its 20 per cent stake in Berkeley and Hay Hill Investments to Mr Clive Smith, chairman of Petronil. It now owns 10 per cent of Berkeley and 19 per cent of Amalgamated Estates and further deals are expected. Promotions House is now sitting on an estimated £1m and may decide to hit the acquisition trail yet again. The shares were unchanged at 26p.

brokers placed over 1 million shares at the 196p level. There was also a large buyer of 500,000 shares in BOC Group

after hours as the price advanced 8p to 280p. Dealers said the move bore the evidence of possible buying from New York, but this was later discounted.

The rest of the equity market made a scintillating start after the overnight performance on Wall Street, but appeared to run out of steam later in the day. The FT index ended the first leg of the long three week Easter account 6.6 higher at 895.2 having been 11.3 up earlier in the day.

Giles staged an early attempt at a rally in line with the rest of the market, but the Government broker put paid to that with the issue of additional amounts of existing 'tap' stocks. They included £100m Treasury 3 per cent 1986 and £150m of Treasury 3 per cent 1987. At the long end of the market, gains of around 5% were replaced with falls of a similar amount. Shorts rallied and closed with rises of up to 1%.

Woolworth continued to make headway after the agreed bid for Comet with a rise 3p to 513p. Comet also advanced 8p to 228p. Carrys tipped as the next target for the luckless Mr Philip Harris of Harris Queensway, hardened 5p to 378p, while Harris Queensway lost an initial lead to close unchanged at 390p.

Muirhead advanced a further 2p to 166p still reflecting the sale of the United States group Tyco Laboratories' stake of 28 per cent earlier this week. The 2.4 million shares were placed by broker Cazenove at 150p a share with institutions and represents a sizable loss on Tyco's original investment.

Tyco bought its original investment for nearly £4.5m when the pound stood at £2.40 against the dollar. Since then the pound had fallen sharply and the shares have lost ground along with Muirhead's profitability. But the sale does open up other avenues. It means that with Tyco out of the way the ground has pulled clear of the recession.

Profit taking taking clipped 3p from Spear & Jackson at 150p after a week of intense speculation. Market pundits reckon the group could soon fall prey to a bid from Jenks & Cattell.

The Delta Group yesterday popped up as the holder of a 7 per cent stake in Mr David Suter's Suter refrigeration and hairdressing group. It follows conversion of Delta's options in the company and came coincidentally at the same time as Francis Industries put out its defence document against Suter's unwanted bid.

Francis' advisers believe Delta has seen the best of Suter's capital growth and has therefore converted to sell. Well, they would, wouldn't they? Suter's advisers say the conversion was so that Delta would benefit directly from capital growth through they will lose income. Well, that is what they would say, isn't it?

Francis' defence document zeros in on two points. Thursday's special dispensation from the Takeover Panel to increase the cash alternative and the massive number of Suter shares overhanging the market.

There were buyers in the market for Francis shares at 129p which anticipates a new bid worth 140p to 150p.

Two overseas companies are take a controlling interest in

Astra Industrial, whose interests stretch from property to snooker and bingo, was unchanged at 17½ yesterday. Last month Mr Peter Dellar, of Charles Baynes, replaced Mr Dennis Dukes as chairman after buying his personal stake of 1m shares or 2.3 per cent. With such a widespread of interest Astra is now looked upon as the ideal shell situation for Mr Dellar and the rest of his colleagues at St Georges Laundry, now part of Spring Grove. One firm of brokers reckons the shares are now worth 30p.

Trifus, one of Britain's leading diamond processing groups. Shares of Trifus returned from suspension unchanged at a high of 62p after Asahi Diamond Industrial Company of Japan and Lieber & Solow of the US announced they were to subscribe for 2.6 million shares at 37p a share.

Equity turnover on April 12, was £305.313m (20,023 bargains). The number of British and Irish stocks traded was 167.8. Gilt bargains totalled 3,316.

But business was slow and at the end of the session rates were hardly altered.

Interbank, overnight money

hovered about 8% per cent for the most part, although late trading saw rates fluctuate between 6 and 9% per cent - closing at the higher end.

Local authorities were only interested in taking money at the short end. Dollar rates eased on the back of the steeper-than-expected drop in the US money supply.

Comet bid by Harris unlikely

By Jonathan Clare

Mr Phil Harris, the chairman of Harris Queensway, yesterday confirmed that he would not get involved in an auction for the Comet Group against Woolworth Holdings.

He said: "Harris does not believe that it would be in the interest of its shareholders to make an offer on terms significantly different" from the £152m bid announced on Tuesday. Woolworth subsequently made a £177m counter-bid which was recommended by Mr Michael Hollingsby, Comet's chairman and holder of more than 30 per cent of the shares.

"Harris Queensway is therefore no longer contemplating an offer for Comet," Mr Harris added.

Mr Harris pointed out that the Woolworth bid could still fail and in that event he would be prepared to step back in. He had no fresh bids in the pipeline. "I haven't got an acquisition in mind," he said.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

The pound fluctuated between 1.4340 and 1.4240 before ending a touch easier at 1.4300 (1.4310) against the dollar yesterday.

It was unchanged against the Deutsche mark at 3.7525, Swiss franc at 3.1100, and yen at 321.00.

However, sterling's international value shed 0.2 at 79.9. The retail prices index made little impact.

After a lower start, the dollar gradually picked up on small European and American buying, helped by the latest US economic indicators, notably better than expected production figures.

MONEY MARKETS

A slight improvement in transatlantic rates after the US money supply and retail sales figures prompted an easier start in period rates yesterday, if only by the odd ½ of one per cent.

But business was slow and at the end of the session rates were hardly altered.

Interbank, overnight money

hovered about 8% per cent for the most part, although late trading saw rates fluctuate between 6 and 9% per cent - closing at the higher end.

Local authorities were only interested in taking money at the short end. Dollar rates eased on the back of the steeper-than-expected drop in the US money supply.

TEMPUS

Plain sailing expected for ABP sell-off

food retailing, like fresh food. They preferred to see rising pre-tax margins, as a sign that the group was capable of pushing into new territory, to justify the high multiple. Hence the savage markdown on merely maintained profitability.

The Kwik Save board yawned yesterday at the market reaction, remarking blandly that anything different would have been disconcerting. The opening programme is proceeding apathetically. By the year end, a further 40 units may well have opened, bringing the total up to 383. The additional cost of hiring extra management trainees, seed corn for future expansion, has borne slightly on the profits.

Geographically the group still has loads of scope to expand, as it pushes deep into the South East, and the North East, while on products, Kwik Save has moved into wines and spirits, and has traded an extra £33m as a consequence. The Kwik Save formula looks to be intact with cash balances still around the £19m mark, and its flexibility evident in the fact that the group can trade from a backstreet 6,000 sq feet store, as well as from a jumbo footer.

At 180p, the target multiple is around 17, assuming the group makes £32m pretax in 1983-84.

Gill & Duffus

Do not take too much notice of the stock market's snuffy reaction to Gill & Duffus Group's results, which were really rather good.

The commodity trader benefited greatly from two very good months in the cocoa market at the end of last year and profits far exceeded what the company estimated it would make at the half-way stage. But the figures were too well signalled as being good at the beginning of the week, pushing the price up and yesterday's slip by 4p to 206p were just a technical reaction, despite a better than forecast dividend of 6p.

The group's view of this year is probably over-cautious, because while the first quarter was good it lacked at least some of the market volatility that makes big profits for commodity traders.

Sugar and grain trading in both the US and Europe continued to make profits despite the difficult markets

NOW, A RISING INCOME — PAID MONTHLY — PLUS SUBSTANTIAL CAPITAL GROWTH

Investors seeking income are often prepared to sacrifice capital growth — just to generate a little extra income. But you don't have to make sacrifices.

By investing in our exclusive Rising Monthly Income Plan, you can generate a reasonable level of income with realistic prospects of regular increases as companies in Britain increase their profits and their dividends.

Over the last year the Plan has paid a gross income of 8.29%. On top of the income, investors have seen their capital grow by 32.7%. And what of the future? With the outlook for the British stockmarket so positive, we believe that investors can expect to see continued growth in both income and capital.

For details, please complete and return the return the coupon.

It should be remembered that unit values can fall as well as rise. While past performance cannot necessarily be taken as a guide to the future, the risks of the management groups involved are clearly well above average.

To Reed Stenhouse Gibbs, 10 Grosvenor Gardens, FREEPOST, London SW1W 0BR (no stamp required). Tel: 01-730 8221.

Name _____

Address _____

County _____ Tel. No. _____

Present Income £_____ Date of Birth _____ Tax Rate _____

Lump sum amount available for investment £_____

Amount available for regular savings £_____ per year/month

Specialists in Retirement Planning
Licensed Dealer in Securities.
Group established in 1904 187 offices in 31 countries.
Registered in Edinburgh No 47984

REED STENHOUSE GIBBS

MCDONALD WHEELER FUND MANAGEMENT LIMITED

The investment people who are worth talking to

FREEPOST, 20-22 WATLING STREET
CANTERBURY, KENT CT1 2BR
CANTERBURY (0227) 57038 24 hours

What's so interesting about Leamington Spa?

SPA BOND

Minimum investment £2,000 over 1 year

NET INTEREST EQUIVALENT GROSS INTEREST (for basic rate tax paid)

8.25% 11.78%

Fixed rate of interest

Assets exceed £375 million.
55 Branches Countrywide.

Member of The Building Societies Association, and Investors Protection Scheme

Authorised for Investment by Trustees

LEAMINGTON SPA BUILDING SOCIETY LTD
Leamington Spa, CV32 4QH Tel: 0527 27133

Smaller Companies have larger growth potential

"Yet there appear to be pockets of inefficiency in the market, where an ordinary investor might hope for abnormal profits — if only there were some way to cash in on the inefficiency. Simply investing in small quoted companies is just such a market-beating strategem." Lex Column, Financial Times 31st March 1984.

Smaller companies are one of today's investment growth areas. Many operate in high technology or service sectors and can start up at moderate cost with a small workforce. What is more, staff are likely to be more committed, often owning a stake in the business. Many knowledgeable investors are buying in on the ground floor of smaller companies they believe will be the household names of tomorrow.

Invest in tomorrow's household names today.

More than in virtually any other investment sector, spotting the smaller companies earmarked for success needs comprehensive research and expert assessment.

Inevitably there is much less research available on smaller companies than on the

bigger and better known ones. However, Touche Remnant has specialist expertise in the smaller companies sector and this expertise is reinforced by close contact with leading stockbrokers, bankers and other information sources.

Management Company

Touche Remnant Unit Trust Management Limited is the unit trust subsidiary of the Touche Remnant Group. The group manages over £2 billion for investment trusts, pension funds, unit trusts and private clients.

The Touche Remnant Group has considerable experience of investing in smaller companies which have a large exposure to these smaller companies both listed and unlisted.

Investment spread

TR Smaller Companies Fund is invested in smaller companies considered to offer outstanding growth potential. To ensure that the effects of inflation or rapidly rising stock

markets do not restrict the choice of investments, the Fund invests in companies with a market capitalisation of up to 60% of the average market capitalisation of companies listed on The Stock Exchange, currently £50m. The Manager pays particular attention to companies quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market (USM) in which up to 25% of the Fund may be invested.

How to invest

To invest in the TR Smaller Companies Fund, please complete and return the coupon below. Alternatively, you may telephone your instructions to the Manager.

For your guidance, the price of units on Thursday 12th April 1984 was 29.0p. The estimated gross annual yield is 2.1%.

Remember, the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

Please tick box for reinvestment of her distributions

Please tick box for re-investment of her distributions

Tr. Touche, Remnant Unit Trust Management Limited, Mermaid House, 2 Puddle Dock, London EC4V 1AT. For dealing telephone 01-248 1250.

I/we wish to invest £_____ in the TR Smaller Companies Fund at the offer price ruling on the date of receipt of this application. (Minimum investment £500). A cheque is enclosed made payable to Touche Remnant Unit Trust Management Limited.

Please send information about: Other TR unit trusts Share exchange

Please tick box for re-investment of her distributions

Summa: Mr/Ms/Mrs _____
First Name _____
Address _____
Post Code _____
Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

On the case of joint application, all applicants must sign and attach their names and addresses. OFFER NOT APPLICABLE TO EIRE.

TOUCHEREMNANT & CO LTD

Case in £22.7m takeover

Computer & Systems Engineering (CASE) is buying Rixon in the United States and a related business in Canada for US \$3.5m (£22.7m).

Most of Rixon's business comes from products it makes under licence from Case.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Case estimates that its pre-tax profits for the year to the end of March will not be less than £3.9m, against £1.7m in the 15 months to the end of March 1983. A final dividend of 2.74p, lifting the total for the year from 3.15p to 4.1p, is to be paid and the board intends to recommend a scrip issue at the forthcoming annual meeting.

In brief

• **ICI TAKEOVER:** After approval from the French government, ICI has completed the acquisition of Compagnie des Vernis Valentine SA, France. Terms negotiated between ICI and Nobel Bozel, the main shareholders, have been agreed. The value of assets involved is well under one per cent of ICI Group assets. The acquisition will strengthen ICI's position in the European paint market by broadening its base in France, particularly in the decorative and refinish sectors in which Valentine is the French market leader. Valentine France last year had a turnover of 493m francs (£43m).

• **WILLIAMS HOLDINGS:** Board proposes to raise about £2.77m net by an underwritten rights issue of 2.5 million shares. Terms: three-for-eight at 11.7p each. Initially, net proceeds will be used to reduce short-term borrowings. Board intends to pay dividends as soon as circumstances permit. Last dividend was paid in 1980.

• **BERKELEY AND HAY HILL INVESTMENTS (USM quotation):** Promotions House has sold 6 million ordinary shares in Berkeley, which reduces its shareholding to 2.99 million shares (10 per cent). Mr C. J. Smith has bought 6 million shares at 16.4p each, which gives him 20 per cent of the ordinary.

• **BRITISH SIDAC** (equity held by British Rayophane): Turnover £37.33m (£44.76m). Pre-tax profit £1.7m (loss of £1.84m).

• **ARROW CHEMICALS HOLDINGS:** Results for 1983. Turnover £7.29m (6.36m). Pre-tax profit £516,000 (£360,000). Total dividend 1.6p (1p) a share. Group results to date indicate likelihood of increased profits in 1984.

• **NOESK DATA:** Revenue for 1983 886.4m kr (about £81m), against 611.2m kr. Pre-tax profit 143.9m kr (70.4m kr).

• **ASSOCIATED BRITISH ENGINEERING:** Board reports that there was a significant loss in the second half of the year to March 31 last. Accounts indicate this will result in a loss for the full year. Additionally, certain significant extraordinary provisions will probably be made. Board expects return to profit in current year.

• **MARKHEATH SECURITIES:** Results for 1983. Turnover £12.46m (£9.21m). Pre-tax profit £2.06m (£1.82m). Total dividend 9.75p a share. Record turnover and profit likely once again this year.

• **WILLIAM STINDALL** (building and civil engineering): Results for 1983. Turnover £19.07m (£25.63m). Pre-tax profit £572,000 (£561,000). Total dividend 8p (7.5p).

WALL STREET

US factory prices rise

Washington (AP-Dow Jones) — US producer prices of finished goods rose a seasonally adjusted 0.5 per cent in March or at a 6 per cent annual rate, the United States Labour Department said yesterday.

The latest increase compared with a rise of an adjusted 0.4 per cent or 4.8 per cent at an annual rate in the preceding month and a rise of 0.6 per cent

or 7.2 per cent at an annual rate two months earlier.

The producer price index for finished goods showed that prices of consumer goods rose an adjusted 0.8 per cent in the latest month after rising an adjusted 0.7 per cent in the previous month. Prices of non-farm goods increased an adjusted 0.4 per cent last month

and a rise of 0.6 per cent

Case estimates that its pre-tax profits for the year to the end of March will not be less than £3.9m, against £1.7m in the 15 months to the end of March 1983. A final dividend of 2.74p, lifting the total for the year from 3.15p to 4.1p, is to be paid and the board intends to recommend a scrip issue at the forthcoming annual meeting.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Case estimates that its pre-tax profits for the year to the end of March will not be less than £3.9m, against £1.7m in the 15 months to the end of March 1983. A final dividend of 2.74p, lifting the total for the year from 3.15p to 4.1p, is to be paid and the board intends to recommend a scrip issue at the forthcoming annual meeting.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Case estimates that its pre-tax profits for the year to the end of March will not be less than £3.9m, against £1.7m in the 15 months to the end of March 1983. A final dividend of 2.74p, lifting the total for the year from 3.15p to 4.1p, is to be paid and the board intends to recommend a scrip issue at the forthcoming annual meeting.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Part of the consideration will be satisfied by the issue of 3.5 million new ordinary shares half of which are to be offered to existing Case shareholders at 65p in May.

Change at Zurich

Zurich Insurance is improving its private car insurance rating and policy. But it is also increasing premiums between 3 and 5 per cent. District ratings have changed which means that some policyholders will pay less. Zurich has a scheme under which comprehensive policyholders are supplied with a new car where cars not more than a year old are stolen and not recovered, or damage costs more than 50 per cent of list price. In addition, policyholders aged over 50 are now entitled to a 10 per cent discount regardless of no-claims discount earned.

Higher cover limit

Friends' Provident is increasing the sum assured limit from £40,000 to £60,000 for its existing non-underwriting mortgage endowment applicants. In common with other life offices it is also introducing a question on health.

Provided the applicant has not attended any clinic or hospital for tests or treatment in the past six months and is not expecting to do so in the future no further health questions will be asked. With the introduction of Miras, (Mortgage Interest Relief at Source) and the subsequent cash link to endowment-linked home loans many insurers got caught with a lot of borrowers who were bad health risks. These people could still advantage of the facility to buy a life policy without evidence of good health.

Investment advice
A new edition of *More for Your Money* is now available from the Association of Investment Trust Companies. This explains how investment trusts offer private investors the same advantages as large institutional investors by enabling them to take an interest in a

wide range of investments. For the new investor it explains the difference between unit trusts and investment trusts and how to use them.

Send for a free copy to The Secretary, The Association of Investment Trust Companies, Freepost, London EC2B 2JJ.

Bonds repayment

National Savings will repay 9½ per cent British Savings Bonds (Fourth Conversion Issue) at 104 per cent on August 15 next.

A notice was being sent to holders yesterday, together with a repayment application form. Any holder who does not receive the form and notice within a reasonable time should contact the Bonds & Stock Office, Blackpool, Lancashire FY4 1PS.

Holders of these bonds who apply for repayment are due to receive a premium for the amount of the bonds, plus a premium on 4 per cent on August 15. No further interest will be payable after that date.

Education guides

Banking Information Service (Education and Careers) has produced new or updated resource material which includes the completion of a series of books for 'A' Level Economics. Some of the titles include *A Guide to Monetary Policy*, *A Guide to the International Financial System* and *A Guide to the British Financial System*. Three video films explaining banking services, business finance and monetary policy are also available on a free-hire basis. Further information may be had from Jim Fairlie, manager, Banking Information Service, 10 Lombard Street, London EC3V 9AT. Telephone: 01 626 9386.

**M & G expands**

Fund manager M & G has gone into the guaranteed income bond market with the issue of a five-year bond paying 8 per cent of basic rate plus. When this income-bond matures investors will have the option to switch to one of M & G's existing bond funds at a 20 per cent discount on the initial charge.

Details from M & G, Three Quays, Tower Hill, London EC3R 6BQ. Tel: 01 626 4588.

Theft claims rise

The British Insurance Association has announced that theft claims cost its members £273.6m during 1983, a 17 per cent increase over 1982. It was the tiniest increase for 10 years.

However, theft of personal belongings under household and all-risks policies exceeded £200m for the first time, showing an increase of 24 per cent.

30-day debut

Chatham Reliance Building Society has introduced a new class of share at an interest rate of 7.80 per cent, equal to 10.86 per cent gross. The net rate increases to 7.74 per cent if interest is added to the account each half year.

These new Thirty Day shares allow for withdrawals at 30 days' notice without penalty, or earlier subject to the loss of 30 days' interest on the amount withdrawn.

Japanese rivals

Two new Japan-invested unit trusts, from Kleinwort Benson and the Fidelity stable, come to the market with good pedigrees.

Kleinwort Benson's existing offshore Japan fund has shown a 783 per cent growth since its launch in 1974, while Fidelity's existing Japan fund is top performer in the one and two-year league tables.

But here the similarities stop because Kleinwort Benson takes a totally different view of the Japanese market, with its new Japanese Growth Fund; than Fidelity with its new Japan Special Situations Trust.

Fidelity is going for the export-based electrical stocks and will manage its fund aggressively, while these are precisely the shares that Kleinwort Benson's Mr Robert Prichard believes should be avoided.

The minimum investment in Fidelity's Japan Special Situations Trust is £500, while Kleinwort Benson's Japanese Growth Fund requires a minimum of £1,000.

High income scheme

As building society rates fall, investors dependent on interest for their income look around for alternatives and the unit trusts have not been slow to react.

Midland Bank has just launched an Extra High Income Fund, with a monthly income facility if you have £2,000 or more to invest.

This bank already manages a Gift and Fixed Interest trust, a High Yield trust and a straightforward Income unit trust.

Investors seeking monthly income will have the choice of the Extra High Income Fund to produce an income distribution every month.

Mr Norman Wilder, of Midland Bank Unit Trust Managers, declared: "The importance of income to investors cannot be overestimated. The recent Budget changes in the field of personal finance benefit investors who will be attracted to seek income unit trusts which offer the best prospect of a real rate of return."

"Our aim is to provide a trust with an attractive yield from a mixed portfolio which will give stability from the fixed-interest content and prospects for increasing income and capital appreciation from a diversified range of equities."

New business fund

A new business expansion fund (the sort on which you get tax relief at your highest rate on up to £40,000 invested) is launched this week by Charterhouse J Rothschild, the second venture of this firm.

Charterhouse plans to raise £7.5m to put into unquoted companies.

Charterhouse's first 1983-84 venture of £2m - like most other BES funds - was heavily oversubscribed and was fully

invested by the end of the 1983-84 tax year. Investors in that fund will be eligible for full tax relief.

The first fund put money into eight companies, of which three were start-up companies and five involved other BES funds in syndicates led by Charterhouse.

"Few companies are yet taking the opportunity to reduce high and costly borrowings by utilizing the relatively cheap finance available from BES funds," said Mr Richard Duncan, managing director of Charterhouse Business Expansion Fund.

Details: Charterhouse J Rothschild, 65 Hobton Viaduct, London EC2A 2DR. Tel: 248 4000.

Art and VAT

Several readers have asked for more details on VAT on works of art, mentioned in last week's article on paintings.

We said that there was no VAT added while buying a work of art more than 100 years old.

This is correct. But things are more complicated behind the scenes. Although a gallery price tag on a painting will have been an error, but Mr Gordon Tillyer, the manager of Midland Bank in Kingsland High Street, Hackney, confirmed that in future the charity would have to bear bank charges of around £1,000 a year. This would be tempered by an allowance for nominal interest earned on the money in the account.

The Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association which runs art workshops, day centres and group homes, receives hundreds of thousands of pounds in grants every year and has always been in the black.

Then a sum of £101.07 was debited from the charity's account as bank charges. At first it thought there must have been an error, but Mr Gordon Tillyer, the manager of Midland Bank in Kingsland High Street, Hackney, confirmed that in future the charity would have to bear bank charges of around £1,000 a year. This would be tempered by an allowance for nominal interest earned on the mark-up.

This is done under the 'second-hand' scheme which gives this special concession to dealers who mainly buy from the public and hence cannot claim back VAT.

But if a dealer has bought a painting from a VAT-registered source and can claim back the VAT then the painting will be sold outside the second-hand scheme and will bear full VAT.

BANK CHARGES**Midland's surprise for charity**

Midland Bank which calls itself "the listening bank" has earned the wrath of a charity for suddenly imposing bank charges after years of free banking.

The Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association which runs art workshops, day centres and group homes, receives hundreds of thousands of pounds in grants every year and has always been in the black.

Then a sum of £101.07 was debited from the charity's account as bank charges. At first it thought there must have been an error, but Mr Gordon Tillyer, the manager of Midland Bank in Kingsland High Street, Hackney, confirmed that in future the charity would have to bear bank charges of around £1,000 a year. This would be tempered by an allowance for nominal interest earned on the mark-up.

This is done under the 'second-hand' scheme which gives this special concession to dealers who mainly buy from the public and hence cannot claim back VAT.

But if a dealer has bought a painting from a VAT-registered source and can claim back the VAT then the painting will be sold outside the second-hand scheme and will bear full VAT.

Mr John Wilder, the director of the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association, complained of the "cavalier treatment" to Sir Donald Barron, chairman of Midland. "In spite of our long association and without prior discussion we unexpectedly received a bank statement listing charges. While seeking to maximize your profit out of a charitable organization you have not even seen fit to apologize for the way this was done," he wrote.

The Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association has now taken its account across the road to the National Westminster Bank.

NatWest has agreed to give the charity free banking as long as a balance of £1,500 is maintained in the account. "We often had more than that in the Midland account anyway," Mr Wilder commented.

Midland did apologize later for applying the charges without any discussions. But it said the bank was losing money on the account because of the volume of business conducted through it. The bank manager's aim was to cover his costs and not to make a profit from a registered charity.

A Midland spokesman said that charitable giving by the bank was entirely separate from its banking business. "We do contribute to charities centrally, but a charity account is just a normal business account. Does the gas board or the electricity board give charities free services?"

The National Westminster Bank said that charity accounts were considered individually and each was a matter for negotiation.

Tom Tickell

Vivien Goldsmith

INLAND REVENUE**Taking the terrors out of tax returns**

The midnight knock at the door is not the worry in Britain at the moment. It is the morning flop through the letter-box, as the annual tax return hits the doormat which really frightens people. Today, marks the start of the new tax year and more than 10 million of these returns - from IIP to their friends - are going out this month.

The one comfort of just paying basic rate tax on a basic salary, with no complications, is that tax returns only appear once every three years. What is more they are relatively simple when they do.

Taxation with a human face is this year's motto for the Inland Revenue.

Choosing the most advantageous date for your personal tax coding. That means that they only set the single person's tax allowance against tax, whatever your circumstances.

In the past that was a much more potent threat than it is now. Tax relief on mortgages, life insurance policies (taken out before the Budget) now come net of tax relief via payments to the lender or insurer, and not through the tax system. But the longer you delay filling in the return, the tax office will split asunder.

Men are legally bound to declare their wives' income from savings. Ironically, there is no law which forces wives to tell them what the figures are.

Incidentally, a lot of income from investments reaches you tax-paid anyway. That applies to interest from building societies, and from dividends - and from the next tax year, starting in April 1985, the same will go for interest on bank deposits. But remember that covers basic rate tax only. If you pay tax at higher rate there will be a further bill to come.

Taxation with a human face is this year's motto for the Inland Revenue

Those for the tax year - ending April 5. That is standard. The forms are printed long before the Budget, so that is inevitable, and the figures will be corrected automatically.

Broadly, the system taxes couples as a unit. Accountants are responsible for their wives' tax bills, though any woman at

work has her own tax allowance, and tax is deducted at source.

You can always choose to be taxed separately - and an article on the possibilities and advantages appears next week. But whatever you decide, a wife's investment income is always treated as though it were her husband's income. Whom God hath joined together no tax office will split asunder.

Men are legally bound to declare their wives' income from savings. Ironically, there is no law which forces wives to tell them what the figures are.

Incidentally, a lot of income from investments reaches you tax-paid anyway. That applies to interest from building societies, and from dividends - and from the next tax year, starting in April 1985, the same will go for interest on bank deposits. But remember that covers basic rate tax only. If you pay tax at higher rate there will be a further bill to come.

The letters show your coding. If the letter L appears, for instance, it shows that you just have the single person's allowance - or work as a married woman. The married man's personal allowance produces an H in the coding. The letter T shows that you want to keep details of your life to yourself, so only the tax inspector - and not the wages department - knows which allowance you collect.

The three figures have their meaning too, though it may not be clear what you have to add two figures on the end. They will indicate the amount of tax free income you

are allowed before you start paying tax. The codes for the new tax year first appear in May. The figure 200, for instance, will show that you are only getting the basic single person's allowance of £2,000.

The letters show your coding. If the letter L appears, for instance, it shows that you just have the single person's allowance - or work as a married woman. The married man's personal allowance produces an H in the coding. The letter T shows that you want to keep details of your life to yourself, so only the tax inspector - and not the wages department - knows which allowance you collect.

The three figures have their meaning too, though it may not be clear what you have to add two figures on the end. They will indicate the amount of tax free income you

are allowed before you start paying tax. The codes for the new tax year first appear in May. The figure 200, for instance, will show that you are only getting the basic single person's allowance of £2,000.

That is how everything should work, but inevitably there are occasional hiccups.

Live in London and you will find that offices in Bradford, Edinburgh or Cardiff work out your coding.

If you want to check details with your particular tax office.

your department will have the address and telephone number. Ringing them is easier than writing, though be sure you write down the name of the person you speak to at the other end. Otherwise you can be bounced backwards and forwards indefinitely.

There are 60 tax offices throughout Britain (though with characteristic perversity, the telephone book insist on listing them under Inland Revenue).

If you bring all your details there, people at the other side of the desk can get in touch with your own tax inspector, and indeed ask for the papers to be sent to them if need be. What they will not do is tell you how to minimise your tax bill.

If you want to check details with your particular tax office.

Tom Tickell

Vivien Goldsmith

INSTANT ACCESS NO PENALTIES.

7.75%
NET
11.07%
GROSS

No other major Building Society can offer you this combination of extra interest and no strings.

So if you've £10,000 or more to invest you'll do very well with the Skipton. You'll get 1½% extra interest (7.75% equal to 11.07%) and you can pay in or withdraw anytime, without penalty, just like an ordinary building society account.

If your investment drops below £10,000, the following rates will apply:

INVESTMENT	NET	GROSS
£5,000 OR MORE	7.50%	10.71%
£1,000 OR MORE	7.25%	10.36%

ASSETS £70 MILLION RESERVES £16 MILLION

Member of the Building Societies Association and Investors Protection Scheme.

Interest paid annually. Rates and terms variable. *For basic rate tax payers.

FAMILY MONEY

MORTGAGES

House prices poised for 12% rise

Next weekend will see the house hunters out in force as they take advantage of the Easter holiday to look at properties. "We are about to go into the nesting season," said Mr Stuart Gowans of the Woolwich Equitable Building Society. "Demand for home loans is particularly buoyant."

"With mortgage money freely available, the spring rush to move house is likely to be more frenetic than usual and building societies are predicting a 10 to 12 per cent rise in house prices over the coming year. "We estimate a rise of 10 per cent for 1983 and would expect prices to go up by 12 to 14 per cent during the current year – but certainly more than 10 per cent," Mr Gowans said.

The building societies are flush with funds. Figures released yesterday show a net inflow of £729m – down on the previous month's total of £954m, but still more than sufficient to meet mortgage demand. Only once in the past nine months have net inflows dropped below the £700m required to fund lending and societies' coffers are full to overflowing.

Demand for home loans varies from society to society and different branches of the same society report wide variations in application levels. "We have a two-to-three week waiting list but that is probably because the Woolwich, in common with the Nationwide, doesn't operate mortgage differentials," Mr Gowans said.

It is rumoured that some building societies charging more than the "advised" rate of 10.25 per cent are offering commission to mortgage brokers who bring in business.

Certainly, the figures for house prices seem to indicate that in London and the South-east, the large differentials being

charged by some societies are pushing borrowers into the arms of the banks.

Mr Brian Firmin of Abbey said: "It is difficult to understand why our figures show an apparent drop in house prices in some areas unless it is because borrowers in places like London, where loans tend to be larger than average, are going to the banks."

Demand for mortgages is picking up to quite a substantial degree and we think we will see house prices going up in most areas. The market is very buoyant but we are confident we can meet demand for loans and we have boosted the mortgage allocations.

Having wrestled with the complexities of Miras (mortgage interest relief at source), home buyers are now faced with new problems.

Which is the cheapest method of buying a house? The removal of life assurance premium relief (LAPR) has altered all the sums and although the endowment linked method may turn out to be a better buy than a straight repayment loan over the long term, there is no doubt that, without tax relief on premiums, it is now more expensive than the conventional repayment mortgage.

These tables show the after tax relief costs of the three methods of house purchase. Insurance and pension quoted were supplied by Norwich Union which has one of the most competitive low-cost endowments, and turns in a good performance on pensions too. The figures for a straight repayment loan will be even lower than those in our table if you borrow from one of the high street banks or the Halifax building society where they operate the "increasing net monthly repayment" system rather than the less advanced

Lorna Bourke

TAXATION

Redress and the Revenue

The Inland Revenue is not renowned for its generosity but, unknown to most people, it has the facility to give compensation to taxpayers for expenses incurred as a result of unreasonable behaviour by a member of the Revenue's staff.

The Revenue is swift to point out that compensation will only be paid in fairly extreme cases, that the payment is totally at its discretion, and that there is no question of these payments being a taxpayer's right. In other words, even if you are put to additional expense which eventually proves to be unnecessary, there is no guarantee that you will receive compensation.

The scheme, which is laid down as part of the Inland Revenue's policy, dates back to 1975 when it was announced by Sir Norman Price, then chairman of the Board. His statement was suitably vague and went along the lines that, when someone from the Revenue does something which no reasonable person would reasonably have done, and as a consequence of this action the taxpayer incurs additional expense, then the Board will

consider making compensation. There is little guidance as to what constitutes unreasonable actions but it could be argued that no responsible person would raise a tax assessment of £3,000 when in reality it turns out to be £300.

The question of compensation is particularly pertinent in the context of the cost of complying with personal tax obligations. It is clearly a subject of which the Government is well aware. Mr John Moore, the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, announced in Parliament last week that the Inland Revenue would be lending its assistance to a research team from Bath University which is planning to make a survey of the costs to individual taxpayers of meeting their income tax and capital gains tax requirements.

One of those costs is the tax advice which is almost essential for taxpayers with anything other than the most simple financial affairs. It has long been a complaint of the accountancy profession that their fees for personal taxation advice cannot be offset against the tax liability.

Ian Griffiths

THE AGE OF ELEGANCE IS DEAD. LONG LIVE THE AGE OF ELEGANCE.

In the halcyon days of the Edwardian era, gracious living was something that the well-to-do took for granted.

Now, some 70 years later, we at The Edwardian Group feel it's time to turn back the clock, to revive the style and atmosphere of the grand hotels of the period – with one important exception (and several equally important additions).

The exception is price. When you stay at one of our 6 central London hotels – all in prime locations, ideally situated for the attractions of the West End and the bustle of the City – you can expect real value for money as well as luxurious accommodation, courteous, attentive service and excellent cuisine.

The additions include full conference/banqueting facilities for 10-160 delegates, reduced residential and non-residential packages for businessmen and a wide variety of holiday breaks for visitors to the capital.

In a few short years, this combination of a warm welcome, professional expertise and very reasonable rates has made us one of London's most popular hotel groups. So, following in the traditions of the well-to-do, you'd do well to choose an Edwardian Group hotel.

For further information on the Edwardian Group hotels in London, please contact Marian Kelly, Manager of our Central Reservations Office on 01-581 5151.

THE GRAFTON,
Tottenham Ct Rd, London, W1.
THE STRATFORD COURT,
Oxford Street, London W1.
THE FLEMINGS,
Half Moon Street, London W1.

THE
EDWARDIAN
GROUP

MONTHLY COST OF A REPAYMENT MORTGAGE – 35-YEAR-OLD MALE – £35,000 LOAN OVER 25 YEARS

	30%	40%	Tax Rate	50%	60%
	£	£	£	£	£
Net monthly mortgage repayment at 10.25%	218.70	193.08	167.46	141.84	
Monthly mortgage protection premium	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	
Total net monthly cost	225.70	200.08	174.46	148.84	
Residual benefit	none	none	none	none	

*The repayment figures assume that monthly payments are made on a constant net repayment basis with tax relief at the basic rate being applied under Miras. Higher rate tax relief will therefore be calculated separately on a decreasing basis. If the entire monthly repayment is calculated on a net monthly increasing basis (as the system the Halifax and most of the banks use) then the initial monthly repayments will be lower, rising in later years.

MONTHLY COST OF A LOW COST ENDOWMENT LINKED MORTGAGE – 35-YEAR-OLD MALE – £30,000 LOAN OVER 25 YEARS

	30%	40%	Tax Rate	50%	60%
	£	£	£	£	£
Net monthly interest payments at 10.75%	188.08	161.25	134.33	107.50	
Monthly low cost endowment premium	43.60	43.60	43.60	43.60	
Total net monthly cost	231.68	204.85	177.93	151.10	
Residual benefit estimated surplus*	£7,832	£7,832	£7,832	£7,832	

*This takes no account of terminal bonuses on the policy, which at today's rates would amount to a further £15,054.

MONTHLY COST OF A PENSION LINKED LOAN – 35-YEAR-OLD MALE – £30,000 LOAN OVER 25 YEARS

	30%	40%	Tax Rate	50%	60%
	£	£	£	£	£
Net monthly interest payments at 10.75%	188.08	161.25	134.33	107.50	
Net monthly pension premium (S226)	46.38	39.75	33.13	26.50	
Net monthly life assurance (S226A)	6.90	5.40	4.50	3.60	
Total net monthly cost	240.76	206.40	171.96	137.60	
Residual pension sum after repayment of loan	£15,606 pa	£15,606 pa	£15,606 pa	£15,606 pa	
Residual cash sum after repayment of loan	£21,756	£21,756	£21,756	£21,756	

Pension and insurance quotes supplied by Norwich Union

Scottish Life Investments
INSURANCE FUNDS

	Net Managed Property	Off Property
UK Equity	102.5	107.4
Asian	97.1	101.7
Pacific	105.5	111.1
European	98.1	103.4
International	101.5	106.7
London	95.3	101.3
London Listed	95.1	100.6
Deposit	95.5	101.1

Net Managed Property

Off Property

UK Equity

Asian

Pacific

European

International

London

London Listed

Deposit

Net Managed Property

Off Property

UK Equity

Asian

Pacific

European

International

London

London Listed

Deposit

Net Managed Property

Off Property

UK Equity

Asian

Pacific

European

International

London

London Listed

Deposit

Net Managed Property

Off Property

UK Equity

Asian

Pacific

European

International

London

London Listed

Deposit

Net Managed Property

Off Property

UK Equity

Asian

Pacific

European

International

London

London Listed

Deposit

Net Managed Property

Off Property

UK Equity

Asian

Pacific

European

International

SMALL COMPANY INVESTMENT

USM and OTC appeal continues despite risks of failure and thin markets

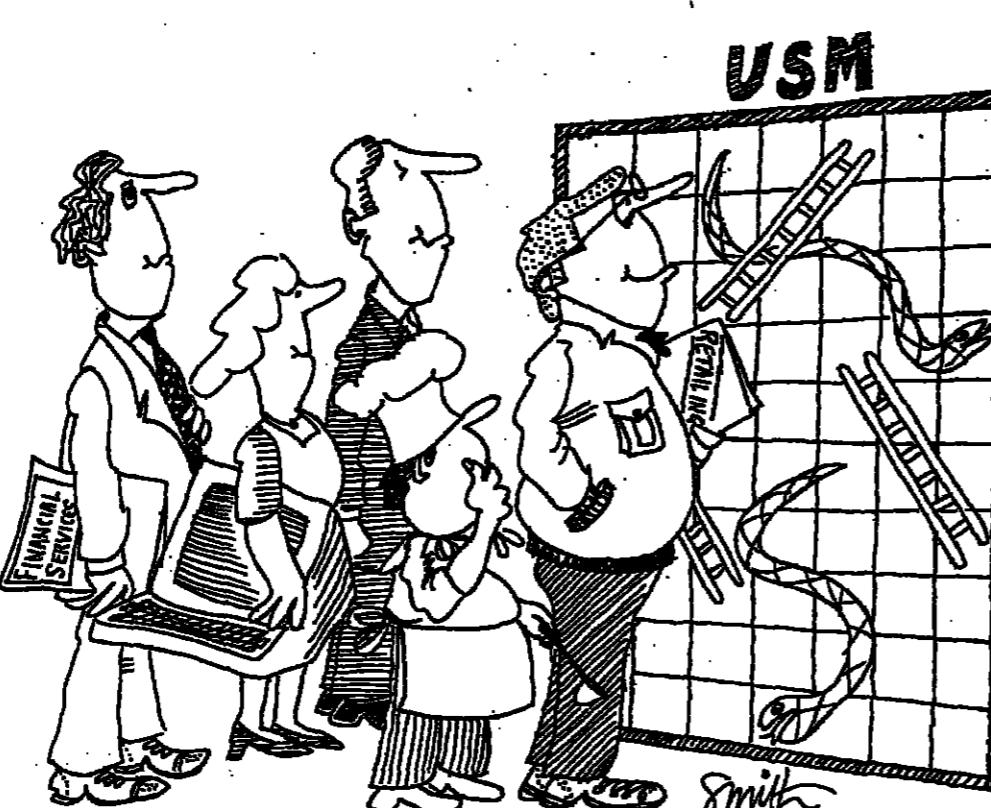
Opportunities to invest in new issues and smaller companies have been extended significantly over the last three years through the introduction of the Unlisted Securities Market by the Stock Exchange, and by the growth of the Over the Counter Market, a new market outside of the control of the Stock Exchange.

Trading began on the USM in November 1980. Already more than 200 companies are quoted and the market is growing rapidly. Some 60 of these companies entered by way of "introduction" as they were already widely held and did not require new capital. Several had previously traded under Rule 163, the Stock Exchange's occasional dealing rule, which is an informal and unregulated mechanism by which unquoted shares can be dealt in. The majority, however, entered the market by way of a public issue and, while some 30 were by "offer for sale", in much the same way as a new listing, most companies raising new capital on USM entry did so by way of "placing".

The problem with a placing is that the public have relatively little opportunity to participate, as 75 per cent of shares get placed with institutions, leaving only 25 per cent with the jobbers for the public to buy. This tends to result in a thin after-market and hence the USM has tended to be relatively volatile.

A large number of companies entering the USM are at a relatively early stage in their development. The market was set up to encourage entry of younger companies and as a source of development capital, and only a three-year trading record is required for market entry. The risks and rewards of investing in high-growth new companies are commensurately higher. If you pick the right company, growth could be rapid with strong returns, but equally the risk of failure may be high and a company may not continue its early growth.

Many companies entering the USM are in high technology - electronics and computer companies are commonplace, several trading on demanding price earnings ratios. Equally, service industry companies are abundant with sectors such as



retailing, leisure, financial services and advertising being popular.

Interesting new issues include companies like Asprey, the jewellers, Fitch & Co, the design consultants Kennedy Brooks, restaurants and Michael Page, the recruitment agency. The opportunity for the public to participate in companies such as these had previously scarcely existed. The Stock Exchange is to be congratulated on its initiative in successfully setting up this second-tier market.

Dealing in USM shares is the same as dealing in listed shares and can be done through any stockbroker; however, because of the relatively small amounts of shares in public hands it can be difficult to get hold of certain stocks.

Before the introduction of the USM, there were about 400 companies trading under Rule 163, but since then the number has reduced as the more frequently traded companies have transferred across to the USM. Even so, there are still more than 200 companies traded under this rule. Shares

Growth of the OTC in Britain

can be purchased through a stockbroker, but can only be obtained on a matched bargain basis. The Stock Exchange has indicated an unwillingness to allow frequent dealing under this rule, as it sees the USM to be the proper place for this. Hence trading under this rule does not really represent a market and the price has to be fixed each time a bargain is struck. Each bargain also has to receive formal approval by the Stock Exchange, although this will normally be granted.

While the USM is developing, there has been a parallel development of the Over the Counter Market (OTC), outside Stock Exchange jurisdiction. This follows developments in the US where the OTC market is popular. Some 30,000 US companies are traded in this way, compared with only 4,000 New York and American Stock Exchange companies. Some very large US corporations such as Hoover, Xerox, Polaroid and Mellon National have used this market during their development.

The OTC dealers operate through having their own private lists of non-discretionary clients, which often run into tens of thousands of potential investors who have requested to

be circulated with information and prospectuses on companies seeking funds through a share placing. It is up to the investors to decide whether to take up each share offered.

The dealer acts as a market maker in each company's shares, quoting a buy and sell price typically differing by a margin of 10 per cent or so. Dealers other than the issuing house may be prepared to create a market in the more popular shares and sometimes there may be three or four dealers in one company's shares which assists in creating a good market. To deal all you need to do is phone a dealer in the share you want and ask him to quote you the rates - don't state whether you are a buyer or seller until you have the prices.

Some dealers have been criticized for holding positions in client stocks for the impact this could have on their objectivity. Certain others, such as Hill Woogar and United Trust Credit, see themselves more as issuing houses than as dealers, but they will create an after-market in share issues of clients' companies.

While the majority of companies on the OTC are traded in the free market, one dealer, Granville and Co successfully operates a controlled market in more than 20 companies whose shares are widely held, and which wish to have some dealing in their shares, but restricted to "friendly" investors - institutions and named individuals.

Trading in nominee names is becoming more widespread and share transactions are approved in advance by the board of the company concerned. In this way companies such as Airsprung, Bardon Hill and James Burrough (Beefeater Gin) are able to have their shares dealt in an orderly fashion without risking unwelcome takeover bids.

At present some 100 companies are dealt in on the free market. The major dealer is Harvard Securities and certain of the other dealers, Aitken, Chartwell and Fox Milton, have been set up by people previously with Harvard. Harvard has concentrated on development capital, with typical investments being of the order of £500,000-£2m.

The OTC dealers operate through having their own private lists of non-discretionary clients, which often run into tens of thousands of potential investors who have requested to

restricted market, the public can deal in shares of these companies through Granville.

The OTC is certainly here to stay and growth should be rapid. OTC companies are exciting - often venture capital with high risks but potentially high returns. The market is likely to be given further stimulus by the Business Expansion Scheme as qualifying companies can be dealt in on the OTC, whereas they are not at present permitted to be dealt in on the full Exchange or the USM.

Information on OTC shares is becoming more readily available. Prices of free market companies are circulated on a weekly "pink" price list prepared by Prior Harwin, licensed dealers, and Granville, publish their prices in the *Financial Times*. A number of OTC dealers publish monthly newsletters covering the shares they trade.

Lack of regulation is a potential problem and as the market grows this will have to be dealt with. Already there are two competing self-regulating bodies, NASDIM (National Association of Security Dealers and Investment Managers) and BIDS (British Institute of Dealers in Securities). Whether they are able to control the growth of the market remains to be seen.

Mike Allen

Harvard Securities, 01-928 8891
42/44 Dolben Street, London SE1.

Aitken Investments, 01-242 0220
20 Southwark Place, London WC1.

Chartwell Securities, 01-377 1333
26 Curtain Road, London EC2A 3NO.

Fox Milton & Co., 01-248 2417
6 Ludgate Circus, London EC4 M7AS.

Hill Woogar, 01-606 2651
5 Fredericks Place, Old Jewry, London EC2R 8HR.

United Trust & Credit, 01-258 0183
50 Bryantown Square, London W1H 7UL

Granville & Co., 01-821 1212
27-28 Lovell Lane, London EC3R 8EB.

Prior Harwin, 01-628 3780
88 London Wall, London EC2.

Over £500 lump sum to invest?
Go for growth...

GRESHAM & FRAMLINGTON

CURRENTLY SHOWING 24.7% p.a.

24.7% annual growth on a lump sum investment may sound like an unbelievable figure. But it's a fact. An investment of £5,000 in a Gresham Capital Investment Bond linked to the Gresham Managed Fund on 31 December 1979 would have been worth £9,456 on 31 December 1983.

This represents an average annual compound growth rate of 17.3%, which for a basic rate taxpayer is equivalent to a gross annual yield of 24.7%. Of course, we cannot guarantee this rate of growth but the past record of the Gresham Managed Fund invested by us in the much-acclaimed Framlington Unit Management Ltd. indicates that you could benefit from a rewarding rate of growth in the future.

Framlington were voted "Unit Trust Managers of the Year" by the Observer in 1981 and 1982. The Sunday Telegraph's "Unit Trust Group of 1982"; Money Management's "Unit Trust Group of 1982"; and Winners of the 1982 BBC Moneybox Competition.

Other features:

Regular Income from the Bond can be taken yearly, half yearly, quarterly or monthly. Cashing in can be either all of the Bond, or just a part, without any personal liability to basic rate Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax. Switching of your investment between funds is available. Additional Future Investments are welcomed. Minimum Investment is as low as £500.

NO SALESMAN will call - you deal with us, in complete privacy by post.

Just complete the coupon below and we will send you further details of the Bond including a FREE explanatory brochure and a bonus offer application form, entirely without obligation.

Gresham Unit Assurance are part of the £3,500 million AME group.

£100 or more!

Buy before 1 May 1984 - Gresham Unit Assurance Ltd. will give a very special investment of £100 to the first 100 people to invest in the Gresham Managed Fund. For an investment of £10,000 the bonus could be £1,000.

APPLICATION FORM

To: Gresham, FREEPOST, Bournemouth BH4 9BR. Please send me with no obligation whatsoever, details of The Capital Investment Bond. I understand that no salesman will call.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____

Name of Investment Advisor (if any) _____

Approximate amount you wish to invest (Minimum £500) _____

£ _____

Low interest rates?

WOULD YOU LIKE MORE THAN

Our clients made 21.15% net between March 1983 and March 1984. Write or phone for FREE BROCHURE.

NIMAN-KING & COMPANY

24-28 Corn Exchange, Cathedral Street, Manchester M4 3BQ. Telephone: 061-834 7973.

Expires 30/6/84
for insurance, pensions, mortgages & investment services.

Here's why you should have a National Mutual Life Personal Pension Plan.

National Mutual Life Placing	Term (Years)	Table for £500 annual premium with profits policy published in	Date Published
1st	5	FT Pensions Handbook	Jan 1981
1st	5	FT Pensions Handbook	Oct 1981
5th	10	Planned Savings	Nov 1982
1st	10	FT Pensions Handbook	Feb 1983
6th	5	FT Pensions Handbook	Feb 1983
1st	10	Financial Times	Jan 1984

Before you decide on your pension plan make sure you see a personal quotation from National Mutual Life. As you see we have a performance record that must qualify us for inclusion on any short list. Fill in and post the coupon (or ask your professional adviser) to see the only figures that really matter... those calculated for your particular circumstances.

To Peter Harrington, National Mutual Life Assurance Society, FREEPOST, London EC4B 4NR. No stamp is needed. Please send me details of your Personal Pension Plan and examples of the benefits it can provide.

Name _____
Address _____
Postcode _____
Date of Birth _____

73/PPF



Putting people first since 1830
National Mutual Life Assurance Society, Telephone: 01-236 1566

11.6%

PER ANNUM
IMMEDIATE INCOME
from
Britannia Jersey Gilt Fund Limited

- * **THE FUND** - primarily invests in "exempt" British Government Securities (Gilt). These are Gilt which are not liable to any U.K. taxation.
- * **QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS** - paid free of any withholding taxes.
- * **A REAL RETURN** - inflation is only about 5%, the Fund therefore provides a *real* return of more than 6%.
- * **NO FIXED TERM** - the investment can be held for as long as you wish you can sell at any time, on any business day.
- * **MINIMUM INVESTMENT** - £1000 lump sum or £50 minimum per month in the Britannia Accumulation Savings Account.

ABOUT BRITANNIA GROUP

Britannia is one of the leading Investment Management Groups in the U.K., Channel Islands and U.S.A. and now manages in excess of £3,000m. on behalf of 350,000 investors worldwide, including 1,000 institutional clients from its offices in London, Jersey, Denver and Boston.

NOTE - U.K. resident shareholders will, depending on their circumstances, be liable to U.K. taxation in respect of dividends they receive. Investors should recognise that whilst Gilt provide a very high immediate return, the prospects of capital gain in the future may vary. The fund should therefore be considered as part of an overall balanced portfolio. Please ask for details of our recommended portfolio guide.

COMPLETE THE COUPON AND RECEIVE:
a detailed letter including past performance figures, our Gilt market investment bulletin and the Fund brochure including your application form.

The Fund is based in Jersey and is listed on The Stock Exchange, London.

Britannia Jersey Gilt Fund Limited

P.O. Box 271, Queensway House, Queen Street, St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands. Telephone: 0534 73114.

To D. Aitken, Director, Britannia International Investment Management Limited, P.O. Box 271, Queensway House, Queen Street, St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands.
Please send me the explanatory memorandum for the Britannia Jersey Gilt Fund Limited (on the terms of which alone applications will be considered).
□ Please send me your recommended portfolio guide.
□ Please also send me details of the Britannia Accumulation Savings Account.

T 144

Shares close below best levels

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, April 9. Dealings End, April 27. Contango Day, April 30. Settlement Day, May 8

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

FT - ACTUARIES INDICES	
INDUSTRIAL GROUP	526.78 (552.01)
500 SHARE INDEX	577.95 (571.09)
*EARNINGS YIELD	9.51% (9.62%)
DIVIDEND YIELD	4.17% (4.21%)
P.E. RATIO (NET)	12.96 (12.82)
ALL SHARE INDEX	532.00 (526.56)
DIVIDEND YIELD	4.34% (4.38%)
* estimated	(previous close)

FT STOCK INDICES	
GOVERNMENT SECURITIES	82.43 (82.66)
FIXED INTEREST	86.42 (86.49)
INDUSTRIAL ORDINARY	895.2 (888.6)
GOLD MINES	673.5 (670.9)
ORDINARY DIVIDEND YIELD	4.30% (4.34%)
EARNINGS YIELD	9.80% (9.89%)
P.E. RATIO (N.R.T)	12.35 (12.23)
P.E. RATIO (N.I.L)	11.72 (11.50)

3 R. M.	59	..	2.5	4.2	506
3 Mills	54	..	3.1	5.7	435

20.6	4.1	19.9	72	30	Smit Viscosa	64
1.4	0.3	57.1	44	19	Solicitors Law	36

6 **EURO**
(%) calls. 24
10% one mo.

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES		COMMODITIES									
179 130 Union Distillers 783 48.5 6.4 12.5		Next week £100m replace £100m									
250 235 Winstanley 230 5.8 2.5 13.0		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
179 130 Allied-Lyons 165 3 9.0 5.4 11.6		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
250 235 Bass 368 11 16.2 4.4 12.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
179 130 Bell A. 170 3 9.0 5.4 11.6		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
179 130 Boddingtons 230 3 9.0 5.4 11.6		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
250 235 Blumer H. P. 236 2 4.6 2.0 11.7		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
250 235 Devenish 424 1 4.6 2.0 11.7		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
250 235 Distillers 265 12 18.6 6.3 7.6		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
179 130 Guiness 143 1 5.8 3.7 14.2		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
246 145 Greene King 158 2 5.8 3.2 10.5		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
166 100 Guinness 166 2 5.8 3.2 10.5		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
177 117 Hardys & H. Sons 259 19 19.3 6.3 11.8		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
177 117 Highland 117 12 4.7 4.0 11.7		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
177 117 Invergordon 154 1 5.8 3.7 11.7		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
177 117 Insel Distillers 151 1 5.8 3.7 11.7		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
177 117 J. & J. 52 11 2.4 0.8 11.7		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
177 117 J. & J. 52 11 2.4 0.8 11.7		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
177 117 J. & J. 52 11 2.4 0.8 11.7		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
277 145 Seagram 225 4 45.1 5.7 13.8		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
508 303 SA Breweries 235 20 30.3 4.3 9.3		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
45 252 Tomato 235 11 1 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
243 189 Vaux 235 13.0 5.8 5.4 10.0		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
161 127 Whibread 'A' 160 4 2 8.0 3.4 8.2		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
161 127 Whibread Inv 160 42 7.8 4.0 10.0		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
296 216 Wolverhampton 246 5.8 4.0 10.0		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL											
A — B		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
179 86 AAH 114 41 8.3 7.3 8.3		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
253 219 AB Electronics 350 5 5.6 1.6 12.5		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
272 264 AB PLC 83 1 2.0 2.4 16.6		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
267 267 AGB Research 347 10.6 5.8 5.7 12.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
250 261 AMEC Grp 226 14 12.0 5.7 12.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 APV Bridge 226 14 16.1 7.0 12.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aeroplane Prod 224 3.0 4.7 12.2		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1		months. 100-110% six months. 100-110% 11-14									
251 271 Aerrow 'A' 152 4 2 1.1 1.1 1.1											

Japan's and developed combined with once again shooting. Turnover rapidly appre profits are up. At the moment production, than for the maximum have been set real sales. On the rates have fallen pressure for momently been. Broadly, the Fund proprietors opportunities in the tourism and construction, investing in companies and participating in Japan. The Fund has holdings in traditional which are the recent success. More has been emphasis financial of the domestic sector. While the Managers look the leveraged companies.

FAMILY MONEY

INVESTMENT

Brokers enter the electronic age to woo private clients

Suddenly the private investor is beginning to feel important in the City again. Stockbrokers are making positive efforts to court their favoured and bestow their private business.

This may have more to do with the threat to their margins posed by negotiated commissions than a philosophical shift in favour of the individual. But the abolition of the investment surcharge in the Budget may have provided a convenient turning point in attitudes towards the smaller investor.

Of course, "small" to a broker can mean a lot of money to anyone else. Many brokers have recently raised the minimum investments they will handle. Phillips & Drew's minimum was £15,000 last spring, now it is £50,000 for both discretionary and advisory accounts. Quilter Godwin has raised the minimum for advisory accounts from £20,000 to £30,000 and James Capel has doubled its minimum for be-

discretionary accounts from £50,000 to £100,000.

Smaller investors will often be directed to the unit trust advisory service. Hoare Govett has a minimum of £40,000 for its advisory service, £25,000 for its discretionary service but £6,000 for its unit trust portfolio management service.

Greycourt Grant, which has more than £1,200 million of funds under management, charges the Stock Exchange minimum of 1.65 per cent commission for deals under £700 with a minimum of £15. But Mr Peter Saunders, a partner, said that he envisaged the creation of two-tier charges when the restraints are lifted on commissions.

If someone just wants us to deal with them without chaffing in a broker then we may well be able to keep minimum commissions at the £15 level, but as soon as someone wants to talk to one of the brokers then commission rates will be

Hoare Govett, one of the top City brokers, relaunched its private client services this week. Its management, tax planning and unit trust services are not new, but they have gone electronic.

Customers with Prestel will be able to buy and sell shares by dialling up their brokers and instructing them either to deal at best or to deal within set limits. Hoare will also be offering its research briefings to institutional clients.

"We are pleased to be the first in the field," said Mr Alan Lizard of Hoare. "There is a lot to learn about electronics in the stock market."

Hoare Govett is taking its private client business very seriously. It has moved the private department into a new building across the road from the corporate finance departments and formed a separate company.

It is looking ahead when broking and jobbing barriers come down and the firm will be

acting as principals and agents, and it will be important to resolve conflicts of interest.

Conflicts already arise when the broker earns his commissions from dealing and has a vested interest churning a client's portfolio. But with rapid changes in the Stock Exchange, new safeguards are going to have to be seen to be introduced.

De Zoete & Bevan can claim

to be the first in the field of electronic ordering of shares.

It is a pilot scheme which is available only to a few private clients, accountants and solicitors operating through Prestel.

Mr Rodney Sinclair of De Zoete said: "We want to try to get the bugs out of the system before we expand. We are happy to go at a slow pace because the real worth of electronic communication between broker and client will not be apparent until we get negotiated commissions."

Vivien Goldsmith

FAMILY MONEY MARKET

Banks

Current account - no interest paid. Deposit accounts - Midland, Barclays, Lloyds, Natwest 5% per cent, seven days notice required for withdrawals. National Girobank 6 per cent. Lloyds extra interest 8% per cent. Monthly income account Natwest 9% per cent. Fixed term deposit £2,500-£25,000 - 1 month 8.0, 3 months 8.25, 6 months 8.5 per cent. Rates quoted by Barclays. Other banks may differ.

MONEY FUNDS

Fund Name AP Telephone
John Hume 85 84 01 638 8670
Northumb. 85 84 01 709 5656
B of Scotland 83 82 01 628 8060
Britannia call 83 75 01 582 7777
Malvern call 82 85 01 499 5532
Oppenheimer Simco
High interest
Sovereign account 82 84 01 236 3887
8.5% call 7.88 8.2 01 382 6226
Schroder Wag 7.93 8.22 01 382 6226
over £10,000 8.18 8.49 01 382 6226
Tulip & Riley 8.29 8.51 01 236 0952
T & R 7 day 8.47 8.70 01 236 0952
T & R 30 day 8.47 8.70 01 236 0952
T & R 120 day 8.25 8.51 0272 732241
T & R 127 day 8.25 8.51 0272 732241
UNT 7 day 8.25 8.51 01 623 3020
Western Trust 8.0 8.36 0752 261161
1 month 8.0 8.36 0752 261161

National Savings Bank
Ordinary accounts - interest 6 per cent on £500 minimum on deposit for whole of 1984, otherwise 3 per cent. Investment Account - 9% interest paid without deduction of tax, 6 months notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £200,000.

National Savings Certificates 27th Issue
Return totally free of income and capital gains tax, equivalent to an annual interest rate over the five-year term of 7.25 per cent, maximum investment £5,000.

National Savings Income Bond

Min investment £2,000 - max. £50,000. Interest - 11% per cent, 12 months notice reducing to 10% from May 3rd - paid monthly without deduction of tax. Repayment at 3 or 6 months notice - check penalties.

National Savings 2nd mid-index-linked certificates

Local authority yearling bonds 12-month fixed rate investments.

Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers).

Investors in industry

Fixed term, fixed rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 3 years, 9% per cent; 4 years, 10% per cent; 5 years, 10% per cent; 6 years, 10% per cent; 7-10 years, 10% per cent.

Finance house deposits (UDT)

Fixed term, fixed rate deposits,

interest paid without deductions of tax. Five-Fifty scheme: 6 months 8% per cent; 1 year, 8% per cent; 2 years, 9% per cent.

Foreign currency deposits

Rates quoted by Rothschild's Old Court Int'l. Reserves 0481 26741.

seven days notice is required for withdrawal and no charge is made for switching currencies.

National Savings Deposit Bond

Minimum investment £500 max

£50,000, 11% per cent variable at six weeks notice reducing to 10%

from May 3rd. Credited annually without deduction of tax. Repayment at three months notice.

Guaranteed Income Bonds

Return paid net of basic rate tax,

higher rate taxpayers may have a further rate on maturity.

2 years Canterbury Life & Capital Life 8.0 per cent 3 years General Portfolio 8.4 per cent 4 years Capital Life 8.5 per cent American Life 8.5 per cent 5 years Capital Life 8.75 per cent.

Local authority yearling bonds

Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers).

Investors in industry

Fixed term, fixed rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 3 years, 9% per cent; 4 years, 10% per cent; 5 years, 10% per cent; 6 years, 10% per cent; 7-10 years, 10% per cent.

Finance house deposits (UDT)

Fixed term, fixed rate deposits,

interest paid without deductions of tax. Five-Fifty scheme: 6 months 8% per cent; 1 year, 8% per cent; 2 years, 9% per cent.

Foreign currency deposits

Rates quoted by Rothschild's Old Court Int'l. Reserves 0481 26741.

seven days notice is required for withdrawal and no charge is made for switching currencies.

National Savings Deposit Bond

Minimum investment £500 max

£50,000, 11% per cent variable at six weeks notice reducing to 10%

from May 3rd. Credited annually without deduction of tax. Repayment at three months notice.

Guaranteed Income Bonds

Return paid net of basic rate tax,

higher rate taxpayers may have a further rate on maturity.

2 years Canterbury Life & Capital Life 8.0 per cent 3 years General Portfolio 8.4 per cent 4 years Capital Life 8.5 per cent American Life 8.5 per cent 5 years Capital Life 8.75 per cent.

Local authority yearling bonds

Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers).

Investors in industry

Fixed term, fixed rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 3 years, 9% per cent; 4 years, 10% per cent; 5 years, 10% per cent; 6 years, 10% per cent; 7-10 years, 10% per cent.

Finance house deposits (UDT)

Fixed term, fixed rate deposits,

interest paid without deductions of tax. Five-Fifty scheme: 6 months 8% per cent; 1 year, 8% per cent; 2 years, 9% per cent.

Foreign currency deposits

Rates quoted by Rothschild's Old Court Int'l. Reserves 0481 26741.

seven days notice is required for withdrawal and no charge is made for switching currencies.

National Savings Deposit Bond

Minimum investment £500 max

£50,000, 11% per cent variable at six weeks notice reducing to 10%

from May 3rd. Credited annually without deduction of tax. Repayment at three months notice.

Guaranteed Income Bonds

Return paid net of basic rate tax,

higher rate taxpayers may have a further rate on maturity.

2 years Canterbury Life & Capital Life 8.0 per cent 3 years General Portfolio 8.4 per cent 4 years Capital Life 8.5 per cent American Life 8.5 per cent 5 years Capital Life 8.75 per cent.

Local authority yearling bonds

Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers).

Investors in industry

Fixed term, fixed rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 3 years, 9% per cent; 4 years, 10% per cent; 5 years, 10% per cent; 6 years, 10% per cent; 7-10 years, 10% per cent.

Finance house deposits (UDT)

Fixed term, fixed rate deposits,

interest paid without deductions of tax. Five-Fifty scheme: 6 months 8% per cent; 1 year, 8% per cent; 2 years, 9% per cent.

Foreign currency deposits

Rates quoted by Rothschild's Old Court Int'l. Reserves 0481 26741.

seven days notice is required for withdrawal and no charge is made for switching currencies.

National Savings Deposit Bond

Minimum investment £500 max

£50,000, 11% per cent variable at six weeks notice reducing to 10%

from May 3rd. Credited annually without deduction of tax. Repayment at three months notice.

Guaranteed Income Bonds

Return paid net of basic rate tax,

higher rate taxpayers may have a further rate on maturity.

2 years Canterbury Life & Capital Life 8.0 per cent 3 years General Portfolio 8.4 per cent 4 years Capital Life 8.5 per cent American Life 8.5 per cent 5 years Capital Life 8.75 per cent.

Local authority yearling bonds

Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers).

Investors in industry

Fixed term, fixed rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 3 years, 9% per cent; 4 years, 10% per cent; 5 years, 10% per cent; 6 years, 10% per cent; 7-10 years, 10% per cent.

Finance house deposits (UDT)

Fixed term, fixed rate deposits,

interest paid without deductions of tax. Five-Fifty scheme: 6 months 8% per cent; 1 year, 8% per cent; 2 years, 9% per cent.

Foreign currency deposits

Rates quoted by Rothschild's Old Court Int'l. Reserves 0481 26741.

seven days notice is required for withdrawal and no charge is made for switching currencies.

National Savings Deposit Bond

Minimum investment £500 max

£50,000, 11% per cent variable at six weeks notice reducing to 10%

from May 3rd. Credited annually without deduction of tax. Repayment at three months notice.

Guaranteed Income Bonds

Return paid net of basic rate tax,

higher rate taxpayers may have a further rate on maturity.

2 years Canterbury Life & Capital Life 8.0 per cent 3 years General Portfolio 8.4 per cent 4 years Capital Life 8.5 per cent American Life 8.5 per cent 5 years Capital Life 8.75 per cent.

Local authority yearling bonds

Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers).

RACING

Teenoso to recapture his classic sparkle

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

With an almost unprecedented number of good older horses in training this year today's John Porter Stakes at Newbury is a fair indication of the treats that are in store.

Geoff Wragg is taking this opportunity to reintroduce last year's Derby winner Teenoso, to active service and what a joy it is to see a winner of that classic racing as a four-year-old when the trend is retirement to stud.

Teenoso was unable to contest the St Leger as he was lame in his off-form leg after finishing only third in the Great Voltigeur Stakes at York last August. But George Robinson, our Newmarket Correspondent, says that all Teenoso's recent homework points to him being fine again now, an observation that Wragg has underlined by declaring Mill Plantation to run as well, as Teenoso's pace maker.

Teenoso will be meeting the Aza Khan's colt Dazzari on fractionally better terms than when they clashed last in the Voltigeur.

Khaipour, another colt belonging to the Aza Khan, who won the Geoffrey Freer Stakes at Newbury last August, is the Grand Prix de Paris winner Yawa: the Ebor and St. Simon Stakes winner, Jupiter Island, and Gay Lemur are other runners this arguably the most enthralling race of the day, a more interesting one in my opinion than the Clerical Medical Greenham Stakes.

If Teenoso does his stuff he could easily be the third of three

winners for Lester Piggott who is expected to win the Buckle Maiden Stakes on the much talked about newcomer Babacoote whose price for the 1000 Guineas is already 10-1 even though she has never run.

Devotees of National Hunt racing will have plenty to get excited about at Ayr where the Scottish National has benefitted from the continued sponsorship of the William Hill organization.

With Drumlorgan dropping out at the overnight declaration stage the weights have gone up 10lb leaving Righthand Man heading the field with 111 7lb. Even this may not stop Michael Dickinson's horse who proved conclusively that today's distance of four miles and 120 yards is well within his compass by running the subsequent Grand National fourth, Lucky Vane, to neck in the Elder Steeplechase over four miles and a furlong at Newcastle in October.

Yet to be realistic it must be said that the Middle Park Stakes winner, Creagan-Sgor, does have a few pounds in hand, strictly on a line through Superlative. But Northern Tempest, the winner of the Grand Criterium in Milan last October, could easily find today's distance too short.

Rangefinder, a horse who made a deep impression on me recently when I saw him in his box in Lambourn, is my top selection to win the Melbourn Metab Spring Cup. From his number two draw on the round course Steve Cauthen should be able to hug the rails and save precious ground on this four-year-old whom Barry Hills believes might turn out to be a much improved horse this season. Hills and Cauthen will also be represented in the St Anne's Maiden Stakes by a sharp looking filly called Woodland Pines whose dam Piney

Ridge was so quick. But here I just prefer Rest, whose elder half-brother Sharpside did so well last season, winning four times over five furlongs.

With Drumlorgan dropping out at the overnight declaration stage the weights have gone up 10lb leaving Righthand Man heading the field with 111 7lb. Even this may not stop Michael Dickinson's horse who proved conclusively that today's distance of four miles and 120 yards is well within his compass by running the subsequent Grand National fourth, Lucky Vane, to neck in the Elder Steeplechase over four miles and a furlong at Newcastle in October.

It was impossible to fault this stylish display. Inspire and Alguazah were disputing the lead when Mercer saw an opening three furlongs from home. Mahogany quickened immediately to take up the challenge and after fighting on strongly to win by two lengths, Coulee Queen finished four lengths further away.

Mahogany is now undefeated in three races and looks sure to start at three furlongs 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

It was impossible to fault this

stylish display. Inspire and Alguazah were disputing the lead when Mercer saw an opening three furlongs from home. Mahogany quickened immediately to take up the challenge and after fighting on strongly to win by two lengths, Coulee Queen finished four lengths further away.

Mahogany is now undefeated in three races and looks sure to start at three furlongs 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

were troubling her so we had to have a furlong out. It was nothing serious but it seemed a bit too close to the race for my liking. Next year I hope she'll be a bit better with some sun on her back.

The only worry with Mahogany recently came when she had to have four teeth filed 10 days ago. They

</div

Beaten Procida still on Guineas trail

From Desmond Stoneham, Paris

The 26-1 outsider Bountiful upset the odds-on favourite Procida in yesterday's Prix Monegasque at Maisons-Laffitte. Bountiful had half a length to spare over Procida at the end of the seven and a half furlongs with the seven and a half furlongs event and the inexperienced River's Wave was third.

Bountiful is a possible for the 2,000 Guineas but no decision has yet been made. His trainer John Fellows said: "The faster the ground the faster my colt goes and by the way that does Lester Piggott ride."

François Boutin was by no means despondent about the performance of Procida. He said: "I have been easy on him at home and he needed the race. The Newmarket distance will be better for him and I hope the ground is a little faster. Czech Asmussen reiterated Boutin's words saying "Lack of condition meant he had no final punch today but things will be different at Newmarket."

Almira makes her seasonal debut in the Group 3 Prix Vuittaux at Longchamp tomorrow and should dominate her rivals. The

danger could be Reve de Reine, Carmelina and Grise Mine.

Carmelina, who will be ridden by Vincenzo, was unbeaten as a two-year-old and finished her juvenile career with a victory over Maserika in the Prix Marcel Boussac.

Reve de Reine (by Llyphard-Riverquist) is said to have made great progress since his fifth in the recent Prix Penelope. Carmelina won the Prix la Camargue and Grise Mine, a newcomer's race at Longchamp last October.

Although François Boutin does not consider that Ti King will be a peak for another month, the colt could still take the 1½-furlong Prix Noailles.

Ti King chipped a bone in her front knee when finishing second to Siberian Express in the Prix Morny last August and has not run since.

There are only four horses in the Prix de Guiche where Almira's connection will be Grand Orient, but he will have to be at his best to hold off the Al Khan's Yashgah.

Stratford-on-Avon

GOING: firm

2.15 ELMINGTON SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£750; 2m) (15 runners)

1 13 He Flies 4-11-10 C Smith
2 85-8 Silver Believe 5-1-5 K Moore
3 216 Sire Nihilus 5-1-5 C Brown
4 219 Bally Way 4-1-13 R Peaty
5 200 Pergamon 4-1-13 R Peaty
6 204 Sire Nihilus S 1-1-3 J Frost
7 205 Padua 5-1-12 R Peaty
8 210 Let High (B) 5-1-12 R Peaty
9 213 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
10 218 Sire Nihilus A 4-1-11 R Peaty
11 219 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
12 220 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
13 221 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
14 222 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
15 223 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
16 224 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
17 225 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
18 226 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
19 227 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
20 228 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
21 229 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
22 230 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
23 231 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
24 232 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
25 233 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
26 234 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
27 235 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
28 236 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
29 237 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
30 238 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
31 239 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
32 240 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
33 241 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
34 242 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
35 243 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
36 244 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
37 245 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
38 246 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
39 247 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
40 248 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
41 249 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
42 250 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
43 251 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
44 252 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
45 253 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
46 254 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
47 255 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
48 256 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
49 257 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
50 258 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
51 259 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
52 260 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
53 261 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
54 262 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
55 263 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
56 264 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
57 265 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
58 266 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
59 267 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
60 268 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
61 269 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
62 270 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
63 271 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
64 272 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
65 273 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
66 274 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
67 275 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
68 276 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
69 277 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
70 278 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
71 279 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
72 280 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
73 281 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
74 282 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
75 283 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
76 284 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
77 285 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
78 286 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
79 287 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
80 288 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
81 289 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
82 290 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
83 291 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
84 292 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
85 293 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
86 294 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
87 295 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
88 296 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
89 297 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
90 298 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
91 299 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
92 300 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
93 301 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
94 302 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
95 303 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
96 304 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
97 305 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
98 306 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
99 307 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
100 308 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
101 309 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
102 310 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
103 311 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
104 312 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
105 313 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
106 314 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
107 315 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
108 316 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
109 317 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
110 318 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
111 319 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
112 320 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
113 321 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
114 322 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
115 323 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
116 324 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
117 325 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
118 326 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
119 327 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
120 328 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
121 329 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
122 330 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
123 331 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
124 332 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
125 333 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
126 334 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
127 335 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
128 336 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
129 337 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
130 338 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
131 339 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
132 340 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
133 341 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
134 342 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
135 343 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
136 344 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
137 345 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
138 346 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
139 347 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
140 348 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
141 349 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
142 350 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
143 351 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
144 352 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
145 353 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
146 354 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
147 355 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
148 356 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
149 357 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
150 358 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
151 359 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
152 360 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
153 361 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
154 362 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
155 363 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
156 364 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
157 365 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
158 366 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
159 367 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
160 368 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
161 369 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
162 370 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
163 371 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
164 372 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
165 373 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
166 374 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
167 375 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
168 376 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
169 377 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
170 378 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
171 379 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
172 380 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
173 381 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
174 382 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
175 383 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
176 384 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
177 385 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
178 386 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
179 387 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
180 388 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
181 389 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
182 390 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
183 391 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
184 392 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
185 393 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
186 394 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
187 395 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
188 396 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
189 397 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
190 398 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
191 399 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
192 400 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
193 401 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
194 402 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
195 403 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
196 404 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
197 405 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
198 406 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
199 407 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
200 408 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
201 409 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
202 410 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
203 411 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
204 412 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
205 413 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
206 414 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
207 415 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
208 416 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
209 417 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
210 418 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
211 419 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
212 420 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
213 421 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
214 422 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
215 423 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
216 424 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
217 425 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
218 426 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
219 427 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
220 428 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
221 429 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
222 430 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
223 431 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
224 432 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
225 433 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
226 434 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
227 435 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
228 436 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
229 437 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
230 438 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
231 439 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
232 440 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
233 441 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
234 442 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
235 443 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
236 444 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
237 445 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
238 446 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
239 447 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
240 448 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
241 449 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
242 450 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
243 451 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
244 452 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
245 453 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
246 454 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
247 455 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
248 456 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
249 457 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
250 458 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
251 459 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
252 460 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
253 461 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
254 462 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
255 463 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
256 464 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
257 465 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
258 466 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
259 467 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
260 468 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
261 469 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
262 470 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
263 471 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
264 472 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
265 473 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
266 474 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
267 475 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
268 476 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
269 477 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
270 478 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
271 479 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
272 480 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
273 481 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
274 482 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
275 483 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
276 484 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
277 485 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
278 486 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
279 487 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
280 488 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
281 489 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
282 490 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
283 491 6000 5-1-12 R Peaty
284 492 6000 5

Two minutes in the pre-dawn gloom – and it was over



Counting the cost: In the eerie early-morning aftermath, wounded passengers are given treatment.

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem

In a daring and ruthless operation, assisted by bugging devices and stun grenades, an elite Israeli Army unit yesterday successfully stormed a hijacked civilian bus, rescuing nearly 30 Jewish hostages and killing the four Palestinian guerrillas who had commanded it at dagger-point 10 hours earlier.

Witnesses said one hijacker was hit in the head by bullets fired simultaneously by five Israeli marksmen as they charged out of the darkness in a meticulously rehearsed take-over which took less than two minutes to complete.

Although one hostage, a woman soldier, aged 19, who had moments earlier been tending injured passengers, was shot dead by an Israeli bullet and seven others were wounded – four seriously – the 4.45am rescue operation in the eerie, pre-dawn surrounding of the

Gaza Strip was being hailed as a triumph by many Israelis whose pride has suffered recent humiliating rebuffs in Lebanon. One described it as a short-range Entebbe.

One of the soldiers who took part in the recapture of the Number 300 bus, which had been travelling south from Tel Aviv along the Mediterranean, and who shot another of the hijackers through an open window, said: "I just did what I had to do. I do not feel happy for what has happened." In the modest manner of many war heroes, he went on to describe his real ambition to be a farmer.

Onlookers had earlier seen the emergency medical centre and stretchers laid out ominously in the desert a few hundred yards from the surrounded vehicle.

Another member of the crack unit, Israel's equivalent of the British Special Air Services regiment, said: "We had strict

orders only to shoot when we were absolutely sure that the target was a terrorist. The aim was to move fast and end it quickly."

The order to storm the crippled bus was given personally by Mr Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister, who, with General Moshe Levy, the plenipotentiary Chief of Staff, was on the spot throughout the night after the bus – originally captured at 7pm on Thursday – was halted by having its tyres shot out after a dramatic chase south towards the Egyptian frontier.

With the frenetic hijackers shouting at the driver in both Hebrew and Arabic to increase his speed, the bus, whose passengers included two children, smashed through two road blocks pursued by five Israeli jeeps before the hail of bullets hit the tyres and forced it off the road. The alarm had initially been raised by a pregnant woman who had been

allowed off by the guerrillas earlier in the nightmare journey because she felt ill.

In addition to long daggers, the hijackers were carrying a briefcase containing two booby-trapped anti-tank rockets which they threatened to explode if their demands were not met. They also carried a bottle, which one passenger said looked like an acid spray.

All had boarded at Tel Aviv's main bus station as normal, fare-paying passengers and spread themselves strategically in different parts of the vehicle.

Despite the Israeli casualties – some of which were caused by bullets fired during the road chase – Mr Arens argued later that the action was "absolutely necessary" because Israel had no intention of agreeing to release 500 long-term Palestinian prisoners. The hijackers also wanted 10 of the passengers to accompany them on their escape route across the

border to Egypt. "It was a long and difficult night and we followed the policy that has been traditionally laid down by Israel that we do not give in to terrorist demands," Mr Arens said. The action was also warmly praised by Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, who had been contesting the leadership of his Herut party with Mr Ariel Sharon, the former Defence Minister, at the moment the attack was launched.

Referring to the recent increase in guerrilla attacks inside Israel – including the shootout in central Jerusalem earlier this month in which nearly 50 Palestinians were wounded – Mr Shamir claimed that "terrorist organizations" were reverting to the methods they had used in the 1970s because of their loss of control in Lebanon. "We will prevent more. We will hit them before they reach us," he said.

It is believed that Mr Arens decided to sanction the storm-



ing of the bus – potentially a more difficult exercise than against an aeroplane – at midnight, after about two hours of fraught and chaotic negotiations in which the hijackers, becoming increasingly nervous, had repeatedly rejected Israeli demands that they surrender.

Before the rescue, seven passengers had escaped through windows at the rear of the vehicle, apparently during moments of confusion which occurred when the bus – which had limped along for nearly a mile with all its tyres ripped to shreds by bullets – finally veered off the road.

A pregnant woman, who clambered laboriously through one of the small windows to escape, described most of the hijackers as appearing to be in

Israel faces PFLP campaign of violence

From Robert Fisk
Damascus

Clapping his mutilated right hand – the result of a letter bomb delivered to him more than a decade ago – Mr Hassan Abu Sharif sat in the cramped second floor office of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine in Damascus yesterday morning and claimed that his organization was responsible for the hijacking of the civilian bus in Ashkelon.

He announced ominously that this was merely the start of a new campaign against Israel's both inside Israel and in its occupied territories.

Mr Abu Sharif, who is officially only a spokesman for Dr George Habash's PFLP, but who has gained even more influence over the strategy of the Marxist group in recent years, made no excuse for the killing and wounding of civilians in the hijack, saying only that the casualties were caused by Israeli Army bullets after his "commandos" – the usual Palestinian description for those whom the Israeli bus terrorists had defended themselves by throwing 12 handgrenades at Israeli troops.

The Israeli bus, he said, had been hijacked to gain the release of 30 prisoners held in Nafha Jail in Israel; one of the 30, he said, was "a progressive Jew who helps the PLO". The others included two of the Palestinians who last week opened fire among a crowd of civilians in King George's Street, Jerusalem.

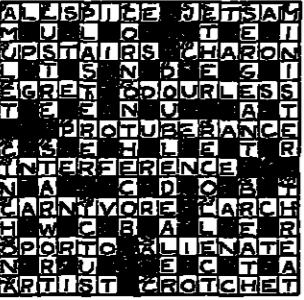
Mr Abu Sharif's claim of responsibility in Damascus was supposed not only to demonstrate that the continued attacks inside Israel have Syria's blessing, but that Israel has gained nothing from its 1982 invasion of Lebanon.

Within the Palestine Liberation Organization itself, the events of the last two weeks are already having the effect that Syria has desired. Mr Yassir Arafat, the PLO chairman so detested by the Government in Damascus, had been forced by world opinion to condemn attacks on civilians in Israel.

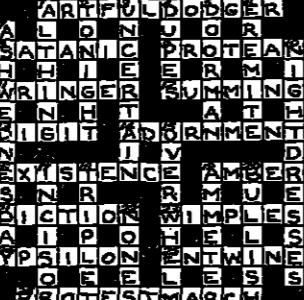
He has found himself making noises of approval now that those groups outside his control – but under Syria's influence – are the only Palestinians seen to be attacking Israelis.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Solution of Puzz No 16,399



Solution of Puzzle No 16,404



Today's events

New exhibitions

Acrylics and Watercolours by Brian Vale; also, 18th and 19th Century paintings; two exhibitions at the D'Arcy Gallery, Profitts Farm House, Talletham D'Arcy, Essex; Mon to Sun 11 to 5, closed Sun (ends April 29).

Spring Show – a collection of work in all media by gallery artists, Colin Jellicoe, 82 Portland Street, Manchester; Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 8, Sun 2 to 5 (ends May 12).

"Pull together," produced in cooperation with the Scottish Labour History Society and shows the history of the Scottish working class, Aberdeen Art Gallery, Schoolhill, Aberdeen; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 8, Sun 2 to 5 (ends May 12).

The A to Z of Minerals, Townley Hall Art Gallery, Townley Park, Burnley; Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sun 12 to 5, closed Sat (ends May 14).

The London Rockers of David Oatby, E M Flint Gallery, Wallasey Museum and Art Gallery; Sat 10 to 4.45 (ends today).

Pots by John Malby, Peter Dingley Gallery, 8 Chapel Street, Stratford Upon Avon; Sat 9.30 to 1.30 and 2.30 to 5.30 (ends today).

Tudor dollin comes from tubers for the first time; few half-hardy annuals such as asters, cosmos, helichrysums, marigolds (tagetes), petunias and zinnias in a heated greenhouse. Some herbaceous plants are growing fast now, particularly delphiniums and fritillarias (crown imperial). Have plants handy to use in good time.

REH

In the garden

Roads

Time now for a general trim up. Finish pruning roses. If wisterias were not pruned earlier on cut back the growths made last year to leave two or three buds. Trim ivy and check that it and any other wall climbers are not twisting around gutters, down pipes or pushing up under tiles or slates. Clip deciduous ceanothus hard now – back to within three inches of the base of last year's growths to encourage new shoots to flower in late Langley.

Tudor dollin comes from tubers for the first time; few half-hardy annuals such as asters, cosmos, helichrysums, marigolds (tagetes), petunias and zinnias in a heated greenhouse. Some herbaceous plants are growing fast now, particularly delphiniums and fritillarias (crown imperial). Have plants handy to use in good time.

REH

Gardens open

TODAY and TOMORROW

Today's Forecast: London 2pm 2m NW of Cuckerside, St George's Inn NW of Cuckerside, Cuckerside Field House, 1.5 acres shrubs and spring bulbs; Harford Lodge, 2½ acres, trees, shrubs; herbaceous; the Mai House, 1½ acres, fine landscaped garden; Phoenix House, spring bulbs, alpines and shrubs; 2 to 6.

TOMORROW

Births: Abraham Ortelius, cartographer, Antwerp, 1527; Christian Huygens, astronomer and physicist, The Hague, 1629; Deaths: Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick ("Kingmaker"), killed at the battle of Barnet, 1459; Frederic Handel, London, 1759; Vladimir Mayakovsky, poet, Moscow, 1930; Ernest Bevin, Foreign Secretary 1945-51; London, 1951; President Lincoln was shot by John Wilkes Booth in Ford's theatre, Washington; he died the following day.

Information supplied by AA

Anniversaries

Births: Abraham Ortelius, cartographer, Antwerp, 1527; Christian Huygens, astronomer and physicist, The Hague, 1629; Deaths: Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick ("Kingmaker"), killed at the battle of Barnet, 1459; Frederic Handel, London, 1759; Vladimir Mayakovsky, poet, Moscow, 1930; Ernest Bevin, Foreign Secretary 1945-51; London, 1951; President Lincoln was shot by John Wilkes Booth in Ford's theatre, Washington; he died the following day.

Information supplied by AA

Weather forecast

A ridge of high pressure will persist in S, but troughs of low pressure will move across northern parts of Britain.

6am to midnight

London, SE Central S, E SW, central N England, East Anglia, SW Midlands, Channel Islands, S Wales: Dry, sunny periods becoming more cloudy later, misty at times. Wind SW light to moderate; max temp 12-18C (54-65F). N Wales, N Scotland: Dry, bright, some outbreaks of rain, more persistent later; winds mainly SW moderate to fresh; max temp 9-11C (48-52F).

North, A1 OMN: Northbound carriageway closed between Blackhall Fell and Haverigg, Tyne and Wear, from 07.30 to 15.30; diversion signed. M62: Outside lanes closed on both carriageways between junction 15 (A666 Whitehaven) to junction 17 (A56 Whitefield). Greater Manchester 07.30 to 15.30 hrs; also 03.30-14.00 nearside lane closed for 200 yards at junction 12 (M602 Manchester). A82-Sunday 06.00-12.00 06.00 West Graham Street closed eastbound at St Georges Crescent, Glasgow, no access from Great Western Road to city centre or M3. One lane will open at Persley bridge, north of Mugross Road, Aberdeen. One lane, King Street, Dundee, closed. Information supplied by AA

REH

7am to 9am

London, SE Central S, E SW, central N England, East Anglia, SW Midlands, Channel Islands, S Wales: Dry, sunny periods becoming more cloudy later, misty at times. Wind SW light to moderate; max temp 9-11C (48-52F).

North, A1 OMN: Northbound carriageway closed between Blackhall Fell and Haverigg, Tyne and Wear, from 07.30 to 15.30; diversion signed. M62: Outside lanes closed on both carriageways between junction 15 (A666 Whitehaven) to junction 17 (A56 Whitefield). Greater Manchester 07.30 to 15.30 hrs; also 03.30-14.00 nearside lane closed for 200 yards at junction 12 (M602 Manchester). A82-Sunday 06.00-12.00 06.00 West Graham Street closed eastbound at St Georges Crescent, Glasgow, no access from Great Western Road to city centre or M3. One lane will open at Persley bridge, north of Mugross Road, Aberdeen. One lane, King Street, Dundee, closed. Information supplied by AA

REH

9am to 11am

London, SE Central S, E SW, central N England, East Anglia, SW Midlands, Channel Islands, S Wales: Dry, sunny periods becoming more cloudy later, misty at times. Wind SW light to moderate; max temp 9-11C (48-52F).

North, A1 OMN: Northbound carriageway closed between Blackhall Fell and Haverigg, Tyne and Wear, from 07.30 to 15.30; diversion signed. M62: Outside lanes closed on both carriageways between junction 15 (A666 Whitehaven) to junction 17 (A56 Whitefield). Greater Manchester 07.30 to 15.30 hrs; also 03.30-14.00 nearside lane closed for 200 yards at junction 12 (M602 Manchester). A82-Sunday 06.00-12.00 06.00 West Graham Street closed eastbound at St Georges Crescent, Glasgow, no access from Great Western Road to city centre or M3. One lane will open at Persley bridge, north of Mugross Road, Aberdeen. One lane, King Street, Dundee, closed. Information supplied by AA

REH

11am to 1pm

London, SE Central S, E SW, central N England, East Anglia, SW Midlands, Channel Islands, S Wales: Dry, sunny periods becoming more cloudy later, misty at times. Wind SW light to moderate; max temp 9-11C (48-52F).

North, A1 OMN: Northbound carriageway closed between Blackhall Fell and Haverigg, Tyne and Wear, from 07.30 to 15.30; diversion signed. M62: Outside lanes closed on both carriageways between junction 15 (A666 Whitehaven) to junction 17 (A56 Whitefield). Greater Manchester 07.30 to 15.30 hrs; also 03.30-14.00 nearside lane closed for 200 yards at junction 12 (M602 Manchester). A82-Sunday 06.00-12.00 06.00 West Graham Street closed eastbound at St Georges Crescent, Glasgow, no access from Great Western Road to city centre or M3. One lane will open at Persley bridge, north of Mugross Road, Aberdeen. One lane, King Street, Dundee, closed. Information supplied by AA

REH

1pm to 3pm

London, SE Central S, E SW, central N England, East Anglia, SW Midlands, Channel Islands, S Wales: Dry, sunny periods becoming more cloudy later, misty at times. Wind SW light to moderate; max temp 9-11C (48-52F).

North, A1 OMN: Northbound carriageway closed between Blackhall Fell and Haverigg, Tyne and Wear, from 07.30 to 15.30; diversion signed. M62: Outside lanes closed on both carriageways between junction 15 (A666 Whitehaven) to junction 17 (A56 Whitefield). Greater Manchester 07.30 to 15.30 hrs; also 03.30-14.00 nearside lane closed for 200 yards at junction 12 (M602 Manchester). A82-Sunday 06.00-12.00 06.00 West Graham Street closed eastbound at St Georges Crescent, Glasgow, no access from Great Western Road to city centre or M3. One lane will open at Persley bridge, north of Mugross Road, Aberdeen. One lane, King Street, Dundee, closed. Information supplied by AA

REH

3pm to 5pm

London, SE Central S, E SW, central N England, East Anglia, SW Midlands, Channel Islands, S Wales: Dry, sunny periods becoming more cloudy later, misty at times. Wind SW light to moderate; max temp 9-11C (48-52F).

North, A1 OMN: Northbound carriageway closed between Blackhall Fell and Haverigg, Tyne and Wear, from 07.30 to 15.30; diversion signed. M62: Outside lanes closed on both carriageways between junction 15 (A666 Whitehaven) to junction 17 (A56 Whitefield). Greater Manchester 07.30 to 15.30 hrs; also 03.30-14.00 nearside lane closed for 200 yards at junction 12 (M602 Manchester). A82-Sunday 06.00-12.00 06.00 West Graham Street closed eastbound at St Georges Crescent, Glasgow, no access from Great Western Road to city centre or M3. One lane will open at Persley bridge, north of Mugross Road, Aberdeen. One lane, King Street, Dundee, closed. Information supplied by AA

REH

5pm to 7pm

London, SE Central S, E SW, central N England, East Anglia, SW Midlands, Channel Islands, S Wales: Dry, sunny periods becoming more cloudy later, misty at times. Wind SW light to moderate; max temp 9-11C (48-52F).

North, A1 OMN: Northbound carriageway closed between Blackhall Fell and Haverigg, Tyne and Wear, from